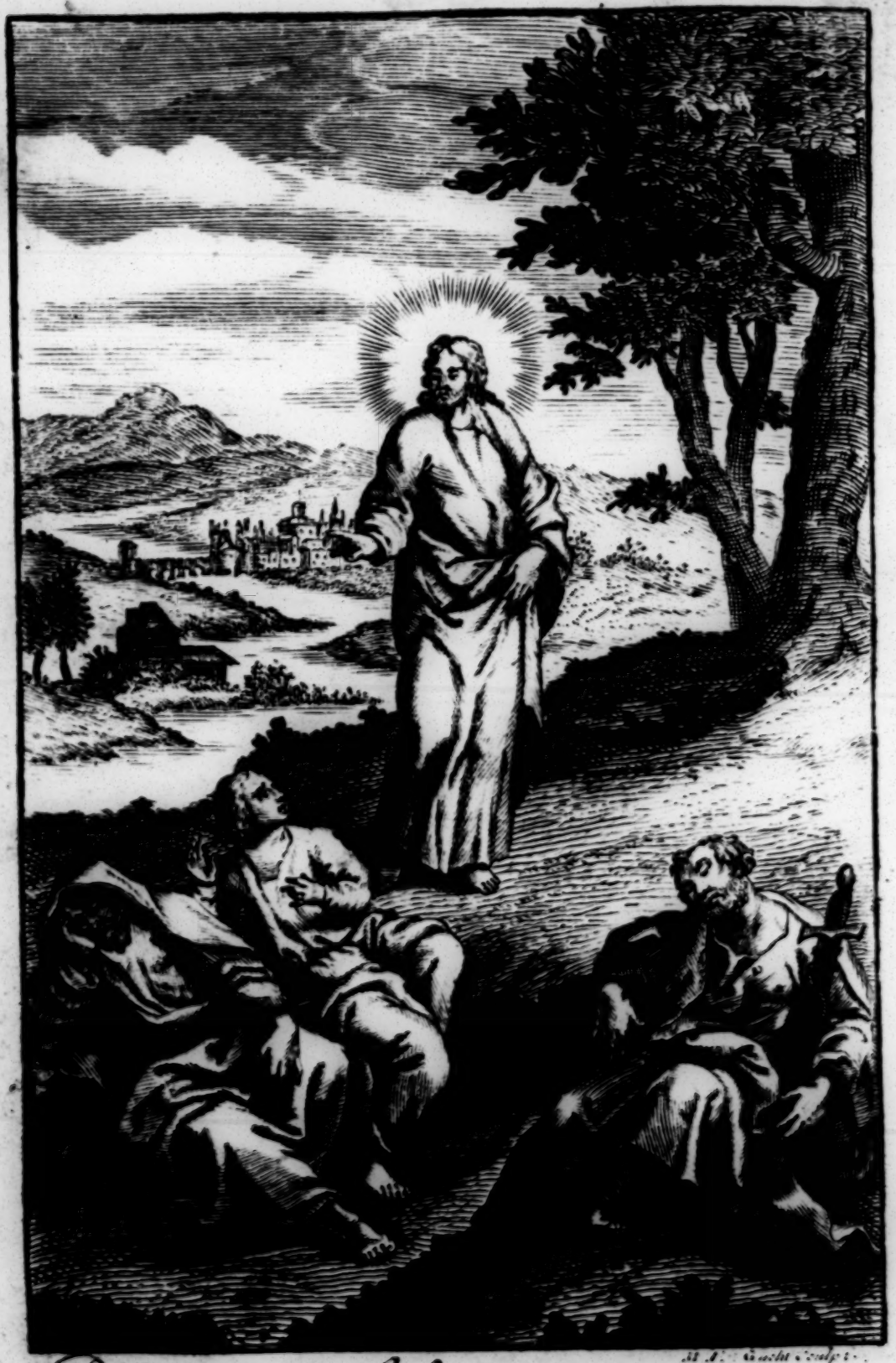


Rise & pray, lest ye enter into temptation. Luke 22. 46.

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# A New Manual OF DEVOTIONS,

## In Three PARTS.

PART I.

Containing Prayers for Families and Private Persons.

PART II.

Containing Offices. I. Of Humiliation. II. For the Sick. III. For Women with Child.

PART III.

Consisting of an Office for the Holy Communion: To which are added some Occasional Prayers.

*The Fifth Edition Corrected.*

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# PREFACE.

THE *Glory of God, and the Good of Souls, have been the only Inducements for publiſhing the following Devotions; it is hoped they will, in ſome Meaſure, anſwer thoſe Ends, and aſſiſt the good Chriſtian in the Diſcharge of the great and important Duty of Prayer.*

*In the Devotions for private Perſons, there are* Morning *and* Evening *Prayers for every Day of the* Week, *to which are added Prayers for any intermediate Time of the*

*Day. This was done, without any Intention of preſcribing to any one; and was chiefly deſigned as a Means to furniſh the devout Chriſtian with Variety of proper Petitions and Expreſſions, wherein to lay open his Wants before God; and that by making Uſe of the Prayers in ſuch a Method, as the Whole may be gone over in ſome ſhort Space of Time, he might be inſtructed in, and reminded of ſeveral important Duties of a Chriſtian Life. But after all, every one is left to his own Diſcretion, to chooſe, add, omit, or alter, as he ſhall ſee fit: Becauſe, as the Judgments and Opinions of Mankind are very different, ſo it can never be expected that the ſame Method or Form of Prayer ſhould ſuit all Perſons; or even the ſame Perſon at all Times.*

*In the preſent Compoſure, no ſmall Pains have been taken, to make the Whole as generally uſeful, as can be well*

*well expected in a Work of this Nature; but as the beſt Performances have Imperfections, ſo this (to be ſure) is not without them. However, 'tis hoped, there are none ſo great, but what a Chriſtian may overlook, for the ſake of that Good, which is intended by it.*

*It is not pretended, that the following Prayers are all entirely new. There will be found among them ſeveral Collections from other Books; but thoſe being ſuch only as have been thought excellent in their Kind, it was believed the Whole would not be leſs acceptable for that Reaſon. And here particular Acknowledgments ought to be made to the wiſe and pious Author of* The great Duty of frequenting the Chriſtian Sacrifice; *from whence, with his Leave, ſome Prayers in the Office of Humiliation, and for the Communion, have been collected.*

*May God, of his great Mercy, make these Devotions serviceable to the Ends for which they are designed: and may his good Spirit accompany the Use of them, and enkindle in all our Hearts such a pure and holy Flame, as may never be extinguished by any Lusts or Passions; but being continually cherished and kept alive, by ardent and devout Prayers here, it may hereafter break forth in Praises and Hallelujahs to God, and to the Lamb, for ever and ever.* Amen.



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A N

# Introductory Diſcourſe

CONCERNING

# PRAYER.

THE *Reaſonableneſs* as well as *Neceſſity* of frequent Prayer, is a *Truth* ſo well eſtabliſh'd among Chriſtians, that 'tis hard to account how a *Duty*, attended with ſo many Advantages, ſhould be ſo much *neglected* as it is: One would be apt to think, that ſome Men, who profeſs to believe, that *God is, and that he is a Rewarder of them that diligently ſeek him*,

are not in earneſt, ſince they are ſo negligent in paying him that Duty of *Homage* and *Adoration*, which even *Nature* it ſelf, without the Help of *Revelation*, would teach them to be due from a Creature to his Creator.

It is indeed a melancholy Reflection, to think with what paſſionate Eagerneſs Men purſue their ſeveral Intereſts in this World, (when they know, that *the Faſhion of this World paſſeth away*, and that all their Attainments muſt in a ſhort Time have an End) and how cold and heartleſs they are in Proſecuting that *Happineſs*, which is to laſt to all *Eternity*. No Pains, no Solicitations are thought too much for the one; but little, very little is thought enough for the other! But if we will attend to the Reaſon and Nature of Things, and to the Voice of *Jeſus Chriſt* in the Goſpel, who came down from Heaven to conduct us in the Way that leads thither, we ſhall ſoon alter our Sentiments and Opinions.

I do not ſay, this is the Practice of all People; God be praiſed, there are many who make Religion the chief Buſineſs of their Lives, whoſe Devotions are as conſtant and regular, as the Riſing and Setting

of

of the Sun; and who, not content with offering up a daily Morning and Evening Sacrifice of Prayer and Praiſe to God, do (as *Daniel* did) pray Three times a Day; and beſides, are continually ſending up *pious Ejaculations* to Heaven; ſo that in the ſtricteſt Senſe of the Apoſtle's Meaning, they may be ſaid *to pray without Ceaſing*.

But alas! how many are there, whoſe Lives are the very Reverſe of all this; who ſeem to live without God in the World, and to own no Dependence on his Providence, nor to have any Regard to a future Life; who ſeldom retire into their Cloſets, unleſs to form Projects and Deſigns of worldly Advantage, or to ſee how their Accounts ſtand in reſpect to the Affairs of this Life! How many Families are there, where the very Form and Appearance of Religion is almoſt loſt! where Children and Servants, inſtead of being call'd to daily Prayers in the Family, have hardly the Example ſet them of retiring in private!

What Methods thoſe that profeſs to be Chriſtians, take to ſatisfie themſelves in a conſtant Neglect of ſo plain and neceſſary a Duty, as that of *Private and Family*

*Prayer*, I know not; but ſure they have little Thought, how they will be able to anſwer it at the *Laſt Day*, when they ſhall appear before the Judgment-Seat of Chriſt, there to give an Account how they have obſerv'd the Precepts of Chriſtianity, of which they can't but know this is one, *That Men ought always to* [a] *pray*: Or, as it is in another Place, *that Men pray every where* [b], *Lifting up Holy Hands, without Wrath and Doubting.*

In order, therefore, to convince ſuch Men of the great Importance of *Praying frequently* to God, and how inexcuſable they are if they neglect ſo to do, I deſire they would go along with me in the following Reflexions.

Conſider that Prayer is a Duty enjoin'd us purely for our own Sakes; a Duty, that is neither expenſive of our Time, nor of Eſtates; no Depth of Learning, no Subtilty of Parts, is requir'd to the Practice of it; 'tis what the Meaneſt as well as the Higheſt may perform; 'tis ſuited to all Perſons and all Conditions; the Miſerable and Afflicted, the Proſperous and Happy, the

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[a] Luk. xviii. 1. [b] 1 Tim. ii. 8.

the Poor and the Rich, the Young and Old, may all pray to God; no Circumſtance of Life can incapacitate us for this Duty; it obliges all, for all are the Creatures of God, and depend upon Him for all the Comforts and Conveniencies of Life; *In Him we live, and move, and have our Being*; and therefore (as the *Pſalmiſt* adviſes) *we ſhould worſhip, and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker*; and what engages us the more ſo to do, is, that God hath been graciouſly pleaſed to invite us to this Duty by the moſt endearing Promiſes, and annex'd invaluable Bleſſings to the due Performance of it. He hath declar'd Himſelf to be *a God hearing Prayer*, and has promis'd that *He will give his Holy Spirit to them that ask it.* Our Saviour has aſſured us, that *if we pray to our Father which is in ſecret, our Father, which ſeeth in ſecret, will reward us openly* [a]; and that *whatſoever we ask the Father in his Name, He will give it us* [b]. *If any of you*, ſays St *James*, *lack Wiſdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all Men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it ſhall be given him* [c].



a Matt. v. 6. b Joh. xvi. 23. c Jam. i. 5.

Nay, ſo far has God been pleaſed to condeſcend in this Matter, as to appeal even to Men themſelves for the Truth of it. *What Man is there of you*, ſays our Saviour, *whom if his Son ask Bread, will he give him a Stone? Or if he ask a Fiſh, will he give him a Serpent? If ye then being evil, know how to give good Gifts unto your Children, how much more ſhall your Father which is in Heaven give good Gifts to them that ask him*[a]? As if he ſhould have ſaid, 'Was ever any 'Earthly Parent deaf to the Wants and 'Cries of his Children; and if they ask'd 'for Food, did he deride their Neceſſities, 'by giving them what it was impoſſible 'they ſhould eat? If ye then that are *evil*, 'that is, *niggardly and covetous*, know not 'how to reſiſt the Force of natural Affecti-'ons, how much rather ought ye to think, 'that your Father, which is in Heaven, 'who ſees, and knows, and pities all your 'Wants; He that is Goodneſs it ſelf, 'who delights in communicating the Ef-'fects of that Goodneſs, and whoſe Love 'exceeds the Kindneſs of the moſt tender 'Parent; how much rather, I ſay, ought 'ye

[a] Matt. vii. 9, 10, 11.

'ye to think, that ſuch a Father will be 'ready to hear the Prayers of his Children 'that call upon Him? It is certain, and 'you may be aſſur'd, that he will hear 'them, and *give good Gifts to them that 'ask Him.* But he has made our *asking* of them one *Condition* of our receiving them from Him.

And now, what higher *Motives* can we wiſh for, to excite our Performance of any Duty, than we have for this? What can we deſire more to encourage our Addreſſes to God by Prayer, than to be aſſur'd, That he will *hear us?* He who is the Lord of Heaven and Earth, whoſe Goodneſs as well as Power is infinite, and who is as willing as he is able, to relieve our Wants? O the mighty Power of Prayer! who would ever be a Stranger to it? Who that conſider'd the Excellency of Prayer, and what an Inſtrument it is of our Happineſs both here and hereafter, would either neglect it, or be remiſs or careleſs in the Performance of it? 'Tis the higheſt *Privilege* we are capable of in this Life; by this we converſe with God, and have an Intercourſe with Heaven. Prayer is a never-ceaſing Spring of *Comfort*, where we are invited to taſte

freely,

freely, and from whence proceeds ſuch pleaſant Streams as will refreſh the Soul in all the Troubles and Calamities of Life. *Is any among you afflicted?* ſays St. *James* [a], *let him pray.* This was the conſtant Practice of the *Pſalmiſt*, and from his own Experience he has taught us what mighty *Advantages* attend it. *When I am in Trouble*, ſays he [b], *I will call upon thee, O Lord, for Thou heareſt me.* And in another Place [c], *I ſought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my Fears. In my Diſtreſs I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God; He heard my Voice out of his Temple, and my Cry came before Him, even into his Ears.* Indeed, there is nothing in the World ſeems ſo prevalent with God, as the *fervent Prayer of a Righteous Man*; We are told by St. *James*, that it *availeth much*, when offered up in behalf of others; and to be ſure, 'tis of no leſs *Force*, when our own Wants are the Subject of it.

Not that we are to conclude from hence, That all the Prayers, even of a *Righteous Man*, ſhall immediately be anſwered by God;

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[a] Jam. v. 13. [b] Pſal. xxxiv. 4. [c] Ibid. xviii. 6.

God; no, there may be many wiſe Reaſons, why God may ſee fit to deny what we ask, or at leaſt defer the granting it; as, for the Tryal of our *Faith*, or for the Exerciſe of ſome *Virtue* in us; or becauſe we are not yet fit for the Bleſſing we deſire; or that we ask for what he ſees would be *hurtful to us*, or the like. And therefore we muſt not underſtand the *Promiſes* which are made to Prayer, in an abſolute, but a limited Senſe; that is, that when we and our Prayers have thoſe *Qualifications*, which are neceſſary to make them acceptable to God, he will give us what we ask for, if he ſees it fit for us; I ſay, fit for us; becauſe we may (and I doubt, from a Fondneſs for the Things of this Life, or through Ignorance, too often do) ask for ſuch Things, as it may be *great Mercy* in God to deny us.

In order, therefore, that our Prayers may be acceptable to God, Three Things are to be conſider'd. 1*ſt*, The *Qualifications* of the *Perſon* praying. 2*dly*, The *Matter* of our Prayers. And 3*dly*, The *Manner* of them.

*Firſt*, The *Qualifications* of the *Perſon* praying.

1. He that would pray ſo as to be heard of God, *muſt lift up holy Hands, and a*

*pure*

*pure Heart.* He muſt not bring with him any *unrepented Sins*; but as God ſpeaks by the Prophet *Iſaiah*, upon the like Occaſion, *He muſt put away the Evil of his Doings.* —*He muſt ceaſe to do evil, and learn to do well* [a]. Or, as St. *Peter* adviſes, *Let him eſchew Evil, and do Good*; For as it follows in the next Verſe, *The Eyes of the Lord are over the Righteous, and his Ears are open unto their Prayers: But the Face of the Lord is againſt them that do Evil* [b]. And to the ſame Purpoſe ſays *Solomon*, *The Sacrifice of the Wicked is an Abomination to the Lord; but the Prayer of the Upright is his Delight* [c]. *If I incline unto Wickedneſs in my Heart*, ſays holy *David*, *the Lord will not hear me* [d]. Indeed, there is nothing more evident from the whole Scope of the *Scriptures*, than *that God heareth not* wilful *and* impenitent *Sinners*; *but if any Man be a Worſhipper of God, and doth his Will, him he heareth* [e]; as the *blind Man*, that was reſtor'd to Sight by our *Saviour*, told the *Phariſees*. In ſhort, Sin is the moſt *hateful Thing* in the Sight of God, and therefore till a Man is come to a Senſe of his

[a] Iſai. i. 16, 17. [b] 1 Pet. iii. 11, 12. [c] Prov. xv. 8. [d] Pſal. lxvi. 18. [e] Joh. ix. 31.

his paſt Offences, and is not only *ſorry* for having offended God, but reſolved by his Grace to amend for the future, he can never be ſaid to be in a fit *Diſpoſition* to pray; but as this is the loweſt Conception we can have of the *Qualification* I am ſpeaking of, a Man muſt not ſtop here, he muſt put thoſe good *Reſolutions* in Practice, having always in View this Conſideration, "That the "greater Attainments any one makes in a "Holy Life, the more acceptable will his "Prayers be in the Sight of God.

2. A *ſecond* Qualification reſpecting *the Perſon praying*, is *Charity* or *Love*; and this is ſo neceſſary, that though *we ſhould pray with the Tongues of Men and Angels*, and have not this Qualification, it would be to no purpoſe; *our Prayers would be but like ſounding Braſs, or a tinkling Cymbal*, empty and inſignificant Sounds. There is nothing ſo contrary to the Nature of God, nothing ſo wide of the true Spirit of a Chriſtian, as *Bitterneſs and Wrath, Malice and Envy*: And therefore 'tis vain to think, that ever our Prayers can be acceptable to the God of Love, till *we have put on, as the Elect of God, Bowels of Mercies, Kindneſs, Humbleneſs of Mind, Meekneſs,*

*Long-*

*Long-ſuffering, forbearing one another, and forgiving one another* [a], as St. *Paul* commands.

3. A *Third* Qualification is *Faith*, *If any of you lack Wiſdom*, ſays St. *James*, *let him ask of God; but let him ask with Faith, nothing wavering* [b]. Not that we are to underſtand by this, that we muſt never offer up our Prayers to God, but with a *firm Belief*, that what we pray for ſhall immediately be granted us. No, all that is *required* of us in this Matter, is to come to the Throne of God with an humble *Confidence* in his Mercy, aſſuredly believing that *God is the Hearer of Prayer*, and that He is infinitely Good and Wiſe, and will deny us nothing that he ſees and knows to be *fit* for us. And from hence it will follow,

4. As a *Fourth* Qualification, That in all Things of a Temporal Concern, we muſt exerciſe an *entire Submiſſion* to the Will of God. *Not my Will, but thine be done*, ſaid our Bleſſed *Lord*, when he prayed that *the bitter Cup might paſs from him:* And ſo muſt we too, whenever we pray for the Removing of preſent Evils, or the Procurement

[a] Col. iii. 12, 13. [b] Jam. i. 5, 6.

ment of any future Good of this Life. God indeed has been graciouſly pleas'd to encourage us to lay our Wants before him; but how far, and in what Manner, and when they ſhall be relieved, is a Matter He has reſerv'd to his *own Diſpoſal*; and we muſt (and 'tis highly reaſonable we ſhould) acquieſce in all his Determinations concerning them: He only knows what is beſt for us, and what is moſt ſuitable to our preſent State: And therefore a good Chriſtian will be ſure to leave the Iſſue of his Prayers in God's Hands, not doubting, but he will give, like a kind Father, to each of his dutiful Children, as much as he needeth, or as much as is uſeful and fit, and from thence will take it for a Demonſtration, that what God gives him not, is not fit for him.

5. A *Fifth* Qualification of the Perſon praying is, That *he uſes a good Intention*; petitioning for thoſe Things he asks to a good End. *We muſt not pray (as the Hypocrites do) that we may be ſeen of Men* [a]. Neither muſt we pray for any Thing, that *we may conſume it upon our Luſts* [b]. As the in-

[a] Matt. vi. 5. [b] Jam. iv. 3.

intemperate Man does, when he prays for Health, only that he may be ſtill intemperate; or the revengeful Man, when he prays for Authority, that he may have the more Power to effect his evil Deſigns; for this is, as St. *James* ſays, *to ask amiſs*; and then no Wonder, *if we ask and receive not*: Indeed, it is pure Mercy in God to *deny* us ſuch Requeſts; and therefore if we deſire that He ſhould hear our Prayers, we muſt, as is ſaid before, make his Glory, and our own and others Salvation, our chief *End* in preſenting them; and all other Things are to be conſider'd only as they tend to promote *the one Thing needful.*

*Secondly*, We are to conſider the *Matter* of our Prayers. We are to take Care, that we never ask any Thing of God, but what is conformable to the Divine Will, which are all ſuch Things as He has promiſed to give, as Bleſſings Spiritual and Temporal; the former God has promiſed to the Faithful, that diſcharge their Duty, without any Condition; the latter He has promiſed (eſpecially ſuch Things as are neceſſary for the Support of Life) only in *general Terms*, and not as our chief Good, but as an Addition to it: From hence it

is

is plain, that *Spiritual Bleſſings* are in the firſt Place to be deſired, and that ſuch may be prayed for *abſolutely*; and we may likewiſe Petition for *Temporal* good Things; but then, as I ſaid before, that muſt be done with *Submiſſion* to the Will of God, whoſe Wiſdom, we are ſure, knows what State and Condition of Life is better for us, than we do for our ſelves.

*Thirdly*, We muſt conſider the *Manner* of our Prayers.

1. They muſt be offer'd up with *Humility and Lowlineſs.* We muſt endeavour to poſſeſs our Minds with a juſt Senſe of our own Unworthineſs, and how undeſerving we are of the Mercies we pray for. And ſince by Prayer we ſpeak to God, the Conſideration of his Divine Majeſty, and of our own Sins, which have placed us at ſuch a Diſtance from him, ought to *humble* our Souls in his Sight; and ſince Man is compos'd of Body as well as Soul, we ought, when it may be, to *worſhip* God with *both*, and therein to uſe ſuch Poſtures of Body as may beſt excite *Humility* in our ſelves and others; in *Publick*, the Poſture of Kneeling is moſt fit and decent; in *Private*, we may uſe a greater Liberty; and if we find

find Proſtration, or any other Poſture, more apt to excite Devotion, we ought to uſe it.

And though many Peoples Condition may be ſuch, that they cannot often have an Opportunity of Privacy and Retirement to fall upon their Knees, except at their Morning and Evening Prayers, yet a good Chriſtian, that truly loves and honours God, and is ſenſible of his entire *Dependence* upon Him for Grace to reſiſt Temptations, and to do his Duty, and to defend him againſt the *Evils* and *Calamities* of this Life, will never make that a Pretence for not frequently praying to Him; ſuch an one, even in the midſt of Buſineſs and Company, will be ſometimes lifting up his Heart to God in *devout and pious Ejaculations*; and when alone (though walking or ſtanding) will many Times offer up a ſhort and comprehenſive Prayer to Him, ſuch as that our *Saviour* has taught us, or ſome ſhort Collect of the Church, or the like. No Condition of Life can hinder a devout Mind from this; and therefore nothing ſhould be made a Pretence for not doing it; and this will be *accepted by God*, when we have not an Opportunity to fall upon our Knees, and offer up a more ſolemn Prayer.

I hope that no one will miſtake me, as if I thought *Ejaculatory Prayer* proper only for People of Buſineſs; 'tis what I would recommend to all, even thoſe of the greateſt Leiſure and Retirement, as being not only *very pleaſing* in the Sight of God, but an *excellent Means* of keeping the Soul in a fit Diſpoſition to pray to him in a more ſolemn Manner.

2. Our Prayers muſt be offered up with *Fervency and Devotion*, which requires that what we utter ſhould come from the Heart; and therefore we muſt not pray in a cold, formal, and careleſs Manner; but with ſuch Zeal and Earneſtneſs, as is in ſome Meaſure ſuitable to the *Importance* of the Things we pray for; ſome of which are of that infinite Moment and Concern, that if we ſhould not be heard, we are of all Creatures the moſt miſerable: And though wandring Thoughts will be apt to intrude themſelves into the Minds of the beſt Chriſtians, yet theſe muſt be laboured againſt, and lamented, and Pardon for them ask'd of God.

3. The laſt Qualification reſpecting the *Manner* of our Prayers, is *Conſtancy*. We muſt not pray by Fits and Starts, our Devotion

votion ſhould be conſtant and uniform. *We ſhould pray always, and not faint* [a], as our *Saviour* has taught us in the Parable of the *unjuſt Judge*, and never ſuffer the Fervour of our Minds to abate towards God; nor the Flame of our Devotion to languiſh or burn dim, but *continuing inſtant in* [b] *Prayer* (as the *Apoſtle* exhorts) *ſhould watch thereunto with all Perſeverance.*

Theſe, I think, are the chief *Qualifications* neceſſary to make our Prayers *a Sacrifice, holy, and acceptable to God.* And he that has theſe Diſpoſitions, and prays for ſuch Things, and in ſuch Manner as has been mentioned, may at all Times *come boldly to the Throne of Grace* [c] (as the *Apoſtle* ſpeaks) not doubting but he ſhall *obtain Mercy, and find Grace to help in Time of Need.* But let him always remember, that it is through *Chriſt* that he muſt come; He is *our Advocate with the Father* [d], and *appears in the Preſence of God for us* [e]. And therefore in his *Name*, and through his *Merits*, all our Prayers muſt be offered up to God: for as *there is no other Name under Hea-*

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[a] Luk. xviii. 1. [b] Rom. xii. 12. Eph. vi. 6. [c] Heb. iv. 16. [d] 1 Joh. ii. 1. [e] Heb. ix. 24.

*Heaven, whereby we can be ſaved*; ſo neither is there any other Name, not that of the greateſt *Saint* or *Angel*, wherein we muſt pray, but in the Name of *Chriſt Jeſus* only; who is *the Mediator of the new Covenant* [a], and *able to ſave to the Uttermoſt them that come unto God by him, ſeeing he ever liveth to make Interceſſion for us* [b].

I have only this *Caution* to add to what I have ſaid touching the *Duty and Qualifications* of Prayer; that though Prayer is an excellent *Means* of *Grace*, and a great Inſtrument of *Holineſs*, yet we are to conſider, that it is but the *Means* ſtill; and therefore we *muſt not reſt* in it, nor in any other *Means* of Religion, ſuch as *Reading*, *Meditation*, *Receiving the Sacrament*, &c. (as too many, I doubt, do, who think, when they have ſaid their Prayers, or been at the Sacrament, all is well, and they have nothing more to do) but we muſt to Prayer join our own *Endeavours*, and not imagine, that Prayers operate like a *Charm*, and will make a Man good whether he will or no. Prayer indeed has a natural Tendency to promote a *Holy Life*, but Prayer alone will not

[a] Heb. xii. 24. [b] Heb. vii. 25.

not do it; there is a great deal more required to make a Man a good Chriſtian; he muſt *endeavour* to form in his Mind that inward *Purity and Holineſs* which he prays for, and muſt ſtrive and labour to attain that true Sanctification of his Nature, which is *the great End* of all Religion; in ſhort, he muſt make it the chief Buſineſs of his Life, *to walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleaſing, being fruitful in every good Work, and increaſing in the Knowledge of God*[a].

And now, what remains, but to exhort all Chriſtians, as they have any Regard for the Happineſs both of their *Souls* and *Bodies*; as they value the Favour of God, and would not deprive themſelves of a *ſure Refuge* in Times of Trouble and Temptation, nor fall under the Power and Dominion of their Luſts and Paſſions, *thoſe cruel and tyrannical Maſters* (to ſet us free from which, our Saviour vouchſafed to come into the World and die) that they would, in the *Apoſtle*'s Senſe, *pray without ceaſing*; that is, not only be very *frequent* in Prayer to God, but keep up in their Minds ſuch a *devout*

[a] Col. i. 10.

*devout and holy Flame*, that they may be always in a fit *Diſpoſition* to pray: To intreat them, I ſay, that they would not neglect a Duty, which is attended with ſuch unſpeakable Advantages; but that they would *pray frequently* to God in private, and, if they have *Families*, that they would every Morning and Evening pray to God with them too, and alſo join in the *Publick Prayers* of the *Church*, as oft as they can.

This I am perſuaded, is the moſt likely Way we can take, to procure the Favour of God, and to draw down the Bleſſings of his Providence upon our Selves and Families; this will make our Bodies the Temples of the Holy Ghoſt, and invite that *bleſſed Spirit* to take up his *Reſidence* in our Souls; in ſhort, this will fill our Minds with Joy, and Peace, and Comfort in this World, and, through the Mercy of God, and the Merits of his dear Son, will make us everlaſtingly happy in that which is to come.

I cannot conclude this Diſcourſe, without acquainting the Reader, that when I recommend the Duty of Prayer, I would be underſtood to include in it that of *Praiſe* and *Thankſgiving*; which being a Thing ſo *excellent* in its ſelf, ſo highly conducing

to the Glory of God, and ſo ſuitable to the Nature of a Creature, it ought (without all doubt) to have a very *great Share* in our Devotions.

One would think indeed, there ſhould be no Neceſſity of Recommending a Duty, ſo pleaſing in its ſelf, and ſo agreeable to an ingenuous Mind; and yet whoever looks abroad into the World, will find that Men are very apt to overlook the Bleſſings of God, or at leaſt, very quickly to forget them; and then it is no Wonder, if they ſeldom or never return Thanks for them. *Were there not ten cleanſed?* ſaid our bleſſed *Saviour* [a], when he healed the Lepers; *but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give Glory to God, ſave this Stranger.* And was the Enquiry now to be made, I doubt the Diſproportion would be much greater between *thoſe* that receive Bleſſings from the Hands of God, and thoſe that are truly thankful for them. What through the *Pride* of ſome, who think, that all they receive from God, is but the juſt Reward of their Merits; the *Covetouſneſs* and *Ambition* of others, who, from a

[a] Luk. xvii. 17.

a greedy Deſire of more, overlook what at preſent they enjoy; or from an unhappy *complaining Temper* in a third Sort, who (not content to take their Share of the ordinary Troubles and Cares of Life) expect that every Thing ſhould conſpire to make them eaſie, and being diſappointed of this; are apt to undervalue the Bleſſings that God has beſtowed upon them; or laſtly, from *the wicked and prophane Lives* of many more, who being immerſed in *Brutiſhneſs* and *Senſuality*, have loſt almoſt all Notions, not only of the Providence of God, but of the great Things he has done for us; I ſay, what from theſe, and ſuch like *unhappy Cauſes*, it comes to paſs, that the great Duty of *Praiſe and Thankſgiving* to God is very much *neglected*; and, I fear, even among *ſome*, who in other Reſpects are very careful of their Duty.

'Tis ſtrange, I confeſs, that ſuch a *weak* and *depending* Creature as Man is, that owes his Being, and all the Comforts of it, to the great *Love* and *Bounty* of his Creator, and that cannot poſſibly ſubſiſt one Moment, but by the Will and Power of God, ſhould neglect to pay him the conſtant *Tribute* of *Praiſe* and *Thankſgiving*; this, I ſay, is

ſtrange, if we conſider Man barely as a *Creature*, made and ſupported by the Almighty Arm of God, *who upholds all Things by the Word of his Power* [a].

But then, how much more ſtrange and ſurpriſing will this ungrateful Behaviour of Man appear to be, if we conſider him as a Sinner, *redeemed* (as St. *Peter* ſays) *not with corruptible Things, as Silver and Gold, — but with the precious Blood of the Son of God.* If we look upon him under the different Character St. *Paul* gives of him [b], to wit, *Once dead in Treſpaſſes and Sins, walking according to the Prince of the Power of the Air, the Spirit that now worketh in the Children of Diſobedience, having his Converſation in the Luſts of the Fleſh, fulfilling the Deſires of the Fleſh, and of the Mind; a Child of Wrath, without Chriſt, an Alien from the Commonwealth of* Iſrael, *and a Stranger from the Covenant of Promiſe, having no Hope, and without God in the World: But now, in Chriſt Jeſus, made nigh by the Blood of Chriſt, no more a Foreigner and Stranger, but a Fellow-Citizen with the Saints, and of the Houſhold of God,*

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[a] Heb. i. 3. [b] Epheſ. ii.

*God, juſtified by God, and having Peace with God, through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt* [a]. I ſay, if we conſider Man with this *different View*, how much more aſtoniſhing is it, that a Sinner thus redeemed, thus lov'd and honour'd, ſhould ever be found wanting in Praiſe and Thankſgiving! It is the leaſt Return that we can make to God for all his Goodneſs; and yet, if it proceeds from a truly *thankful Heart*, and is followed with a *ſincere Obedience*, it is what he will moſt undoubtedly *accept*.

O let us then be perſuaded frequently and ſeriouſly to think upon the great Things God has done for us; let us endeavour to poſſeſs our Minds with a true Senſe of his wonderful Love to Mankind, manifeſted in all his Works of *Creation and Providence*, but chiefly in that ſtupendous Work of our *Redemption*; let us think upon the *Breadth and Length, the Depth and Heighth of that Love of Chriſt, which paſſeth all Knowledge*; that our Hearts being inflam'd with the Divine Love, *we may praiſe the Lord for his Goodneſs* [b], *and declare the Wonders that He doth for the Chil-*



[a] Rom. v. 1. [b] Pſal. cvii. 21, 22.

*dren of Men; that we may offer unto him the Sacrifice of Thankſgiving, and tell out his Works with Gladneſs;* and may not only reſolve with the holy *Pſalmiſt, That his Praiſes ſhall ever be in our Mouths:* "But that we will ſhew forth thoſe Praiſes "in our Lives alſo, by giving up our ſelves "to his Service, and by walking before "him in Holineſs and Righteouſneſs all the "Days of our Lives.

This is what our Praiſes ſhould always lead to, or elſe they will be but *vain Oblations*: for God is a *Regarder* of the Heart; and unleſs there is a Principle of *Love and Obedience* rooted there, the moſt exalted Praiſes will never reach his Ears.

# A New Manual OF DEVOTIONS.

## PART I.

CONTAINING

# PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES AND PRIVATE PERSONS.

*And* JESUS *ſpake a Parable unto them to this End, That Men ought always to* Pray, *and not to* Faint, *Luke* xviii. 1.

Oratio *Juſti*, Clavis eſt *Cœli*, Gerhard.

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# PRAYERS FOR A FAMILY.

## *A Morning Prayer for a Family on the* Lord's-Day.

WE praiſe and worſhip thee, O Lord, the Creator of Heaven and Earth; for thou ſpakeſt the Word, and all Things were made; thou commandeſt, and they were created. We admire and adore thy infinite Wiſdom and Power in the Things thou haſt made, and we acknowledge our abſolute Dependence upon thee, and thy great Goodneſs and

Bounty to us and all the World. Bleſſed be thou, who didſt ſo love the World, that thou gaveſt thine only begotten Son to redeem it, who was delivered for our Offences, and raiſed again (as on this Day) to juſtify and ſave all ſuch as fear and obey thee.

We give Thanks to thee, O Lord, for all thy Mercies to our Souls and Bodies, for appointing one Day in ſeven for thy more peculiar Worſhip and Service. All poſſible Praiſe and Thanks be given to God who created us, to Jeſus Chriſt who redeemed us, and to the Holy Ghoſt who ſanctifies us. Grant, O Lord, that by a wiſe and religious Uſe of the Means of Grace, we may grow up to a State of Holineſs and Righteouſneſs, and that our Souls may be prepared for thoſe glorious and delightful Praiſes, which in Heaven will be part of the Happineſs and Employment of thy Saints to all Eternity.

O Lord, we confeſs that we have offended thee, by the negligent Performance of our holy Duties, by our Abuſe of thy Grace, and miſpending this thy Holy Day, and by many Sins committed in the Courſe of our Lives. But let not this provoke

thee

thee to withdraw the Aſſiſtances of thy Holy Spirit from us, and to leave us to the Vanity and Folly of our own Minds. We humbly beſeech thee, O moſt merciful Father, to forgive us all our paſt Offences. Do thou mercifully hear our Prayers, and let our Cry come unto thee.

Let our whole Behaviour on this Day be ſuch, that there may be nothing thought, ſaid, or done by us, but what may beſt ſerve to promote the End for which thou haſt inſtituted it; and, good God, make every one of us diligent, not only to ſave our own Souls, but, as much as in us lies, the Souls of others too.

Bleſs thy Univerſal Church: Be thou graciouſly preſent in all Chriſtian Aſſemblies throughout the World, and hear the Prayers they ſhall this Day put up, and make thy Word effectual to the pulling down the Kingdom of Satan, and to the Edifying the Church of Chriſt in ſound Faith and real Godlineſs. May thy Word come with Power into every Conſcience, and have a due and ſaving Effect upon the Minds of all that hear it.

Beſtow a plentiful Portion of thy good Spirit upon all that by Sickneſs, Impriſonment,

ment, or any other lawful Impediment are kept from partaking of the Means of Grace that we enjoy; and be pleaſed mercifully to relieve and ſuccour them in all their Straights and Difficulties. Thoſe that are troubled in Mind, do thou direct to proper Means to obtain Comfort and Satisfaction. Give all that have no Senſe of thy Majeſty, and live as it were without God in the World, awakening Convictions of the Dangers they are in, and the Miſeries they are expoſed to, that they may eſcape them.

Pardon our Sins and Imperfections, and relieve all our Wants, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt; in whoſe Words we farther pray;

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A concluding Prayer.*

THE Grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt; and the Love of God; and the Communion of the Holy Ghoſt, be with us all. *Amen.*

*An*

## *An Evening Prayer for a Family on the* Lord's-Day.

ETernally Bleſſed, and infinitely Glorious Lord God, who keepeſt Mercy for Thouſands, and forgiveſt the Iniquities of all truly penitent and returning Sinners; We preſent our Selves this Evening before Thee, acknowledging our manifold Sins, whereby we have expoſed our Selves to thy juſt Diſpleaſure.

We have been unmindful both of our Duty and Intereſt, have broken thy Holy Laws, diſhonoured our Holy Religion, and miſerably neglected the great Salvation thy Bleſſed Son purchaſed and procured for Mankind.

We have come without due Preparation to thy ſolemn Worſhip, and been heedleſs and unattentive in Hearing thy Word. O how cold and flat have we been in thy Praiſes! how earthly, dull, and diſtracted in our Prayers!

How ſeldom have we been ſeriouſly exerciſed in Holy Meditation! how ſeldom have we recollected thy multiplied Mercies

cies to us, ſo as to become ſenſible of the many Obligations we are under to thee for them; or ſo thought on our Ways, as to turn our Feet to thy Teſtimonies!

But, O Lord, we humbly pray thee, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake, to forgive us all our paſt Offences. Direct and guide us in the Ways of Truth and Holineſs: And that we may always fear thee our God, help us to ſet thee always before us; and ſo to obſerve and conſider thy All-ſeeing Eye, that we may dread to offend thee.

Reform whatever thou ſeeſt amiſs in the Temper and Diſpoſition of our Minds; and be thou graciouſly pleaſed to conduct us ſafe through all the Temptations and Troubles of this World. To this End, enable us ſtrictly to follow the Example of Jeſus Chriſt, and manfully to fight under his Banner, againſt the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil, vigorouſly oppoſing, and valiantly conquering all the Enemies of our Souls. Help us, in Conformity to his Death, to die daily unto Sin, and in Conformity to his Reſurrection, to riſe to a Life of Holineſs and Obedience, that ſo we may receive the Prize of a glorious and incorruptible Inheritance.

O Lord, we render unto thee our moſt humble and thankful Acknowledgments, for thy many and undeſerved Mercies. It was thy Hand that formed us. It was Thou that gaveſt us Life, and Breath, and Being. Our Food and Raiment, our Health and Strength, our Eaſe and Liberty, the Uſe of our Limbs, and the Exerciſe of our Reaſon and Underſtanding, are all derived from thee. We therefore render unto thee, O thou bountiful Giver of all Good, our Praiſes and Thankſgivings, for thy Temporal Mercies to us, which we are utterly unworthy of.

But above all, O Lord, we praiſe thee for thy Spiritual Mercies; for bleſſing us in Heavenly Things in Chriſt Jeſus, which tend to the Renewing us after thy Likeneſs in this Life, and to the Sanctifying and Preparing us for that which is to come.

For ever bleſſed be thy Name, that our compaſſionate Redeemer took upon him our Humane Fleſh. We praiſe thee for his Holy Doctrine, and Exemplary Life; that he gave himſelf to Death, to purchaſe our Redemption; that he compleated that great Work by his glorious Reſurrection.

We bleſs thee that he hath begotten us again to the lively Hope of an Inheritance, incorruptible and undefiled, that fadeth not away, which is reſerved in Heaven for all, who, by patient Continuance in Well-doing, ſeek for Glory, and Honour, and Immortality. We praiſe thee for his glorious Aſcenſion into Heaven, there to intercede in thy Preſence for us; for ſending the Holy Ghoſt to comfort and aſſiſt us; for appointing a Succeſſion of Men to preach and propagate the Knowledge and Practice of his Heavenly Doctrine, and to adminiſter the holy Sacraments, the Seals of thy Covenant.

We thank thee, O Heavenly Father, for all the precious Promiſes in the Goſpel of thy Son; and that thou haſt made our Duty ſo neceſſary to our Happineſs. Oh! that we may all ſo affectionately apply our Minds to the Conſideration of thy manifold Mercies, that they may work in our Souls all thoſe Divine Virtues, Diſpoſitions, and Affections, which they are deſigned by thee to produce in us.

Extend thy Mercy, O God, to the whole World, that thy Name may be Great among the *Gentiles*, from the Riſing

of

of the Sun, unto the Going down of the ſame.

Bleſs thy Univerſal Church. Put an End to all Schiſm and Diviſion, Strife and Contention; purify and cleanſe it from Profaneneſs and Ungodlineſs, from Superſtition, Hereſy, and falſe Doctrine; and make it the Joy of the whole Earth.

Be gracious to theſe ſinful Nations to which we belong; forgive our many and great Sins; and particularly, we pray thee, pardon our Abuſe of Time ſet apart for thy more immediate Worſhip; our Unthankfulneſs for the Light of thy Goſpel, and walking contrary to its Precepts. Waſh us throughly from our Iniquities, and cleanſe us from our Sins; and grant, that by Unity and Charity, and Holineſs of Life, we may glorify thy great Name, and adorn the Doctrine of God our Saviour in all Things.

Continue the Light of thy Goſpel among us: Defeat and overthrow the Deſigns of evil Men, that would pervert the Truth of it.

Be thou pleaſed to further with thy Bleſſing all thoſe good Deſigns that are for the Advancement of true Religion and Virtue.

tue. Let no Artifices of the Devil, or wicked Men, render them ineffectual.

Guide and defend our moſt Gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*; let his Days be many, his Councils wiſe and religious, and his Reign happy to himſelf and People. Let a Senſe of the ineſtimable Value of Souls, inſpire all Biſhops and Paſtors, exciting them to promote and further the Salvation of Men, by Soundneſs of Doctrine, and Holineſs of Life, and a due Adminiſtration of thy holy Sacraments.

Let all Magiſtrates, and other inferior Officers, maintain and defend true Religion, encouraging Virtue and Goodneſs, and puniſhing and ſuppreſſing all Profaneneſs and Ungodlineſs; and let all Men follow after Peace and Holineſs, without which no Man ſhall ſee Thee.

O thou that art the Father of Mercies, relieve all that are in Affliction, of any kind whatſoever; and grant that all may have Cauſe to ſay, It is good for them that they have been in Trouble.

Be gracious and favourable to us, that are here before thee; forgive us all our Sins, and remember not the Iniquities of our holy Things. Defend and protect us

this

this Night from all thoſe Dangers and Miſchiefs that may juſtly overtake us. Refreſh our frail Bodies with quiet and moderate Reſt, and help us in the renewed Strength thereof vigorouſly to ſerve thee in the faithful Diſcharge of the Duties of the following Day. And in that, and all other Days, enable us to live to thy Honour and Glory; that in the End of them, we may live with thee, through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt; in whoſe prevailing Name and Words, we ſum up all our Wants.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Morning Prayer for a Family, for any other Day in the Week.*

O Eternal God, Creator and Preſerver of all Mankind, Giver of all Spiritual Grace, the Author of everlaſting Life; we thine unworthy Servants deſire to praiſe thy Name for all the Expreſſions of thy Bounty towards us. We give thee Thanks, that thou haſt preſerved us from many and great Dangers, wherewith we have been encom-

encompaſſed; that thou haſt brought us ſafe to the Light of this Day; and that thou haſt refreſhed us the paſt Night, with quiet Reſt and Sleep. But above all, we bleſs thy Holy Name, that thou haſt given thy Son to die for our Sins, and to put us in a Way of being happy, if we obey thee; and after all our wilful Abuſe of thy Mercies, haſt ſtill Patience with us, to ſee if we will finiſh the Work thou haſt ſet us to do, and fit our Souls for Eternal Glory.

Pardon, good Lord, we beſeech thee, all our former Sins, and all our Abuſes of thy Forbearance and Long-ſuffering, for which we are now ſorry at our Hearts. Give us Grace to lead more holy Lives, and to be more careful in improving all future Opportunities. Make thy Self preſent to our Minds, and let thy Love and thy Fear rule in our Souls, in all thoſe Places and Companies where our Occaſions ſhall lead us this Day.

Keep us chaſte in all our Thoughts; temperate in all our Enjoyments; humble in all our Opinions of our ſelves; charitable in all our Speeches of others; meek and peaceable under all Provocations; ſincere

cere and faithful in all our Profeſſions; and ſo juſt and upright in all our Dealings, that no Neceſſity may force, nor Opportunity in any Kind allure us to defraud, or over-reach our Neighbour. When thou beſtoweſt Good on others, let us not envy, but rejoice in it; and when thou addeſt any to our ſelves, let us own thy Mercy, and humbly thank thee for it.

Afford us convenient Supplies in all our reaſonable Neceſſities, and protect us againſt the Approach of all Dangers; make us diligent in our Affairs, and give ſuch Succeſs to our lawful Endeavours, as thou ſeeſt beſt and moſt expedient for us; teach us contentedly to ſubmit, and not to repine at any Thing that happens by the Allotment of thy wiſe Providence.

In all our Paſſage through this World, and our manifold Concerns in it, ſuffer not our Hearts to be too much ſet upon it; but always fix our Minds upon the bleſſed Hope of everlaſting Life, that as we go along, we may make all the Things of this World miniſter to it, and be careful, above all Things, to fit our Souls for that pure and perfect Bliſs, which thou haſt prepared for all that

love

love and fear thee, in the Glories of thy Kingdom.

Direct us in all our Actions, guard us againſt all Dangers, relieve us in all Straights, and grant that we may always make thee our Confidence, and take all Things well that thou ordereſt for us. Shorten our Sorrows, and deliver us from all our Sins, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake; in the full Extent of whoſe Words, we pray to be heard both for our ſelves, and for all Mankind.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *An Evening Prayer for a Family.*

ALmighty God, Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, Maker of all Things, Judge of all Men; we acknowledge and bewail our manifold Sins and Wickedneſs, which we from Time to Time moſt grievouſly have committed, by Thought, Word, and Deed, againſt thy Divine Majeſty.

Have Mercy upon us, O Lord, after thy great Goodneſs; according to the Multitude of thy Mercies do away our Offen-

ces;

ces; waſh us throughly from our Wickedneſs, and cleanſe us from our Sins; create and make in us new and contrite Hearts, that we worthily lamenting our Sins, and acknowledging our Wretchedneſs, may obtain of thee, the God of all Mercy, perfect Remiſſion and Forgiveneſs.

Grant us, O Lord, the Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, that for the Time to come we may think and do always ſuch Things as be rightful; that we who cannot do any Thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy Will. Let thy Grace always ſo prevent and follow us, as to make us continually to be given to all good Works.

Help us, O Lord, to withſtand the Aſſaults of the Enemies of our Salvation, the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil; and with pure Hearts and Minds to follow thee the only God. Graft in our Souls the Love of thy Name, increaſe in us true Religion, nouriſh us with all Goodneſs, and of thy great Mercy keep us in the ſame. Grant that we may love the Things which thou commandeſt, and deſire that which thou doſt promiſe; that ſo among the ſundry

and

and manifold Changes of the World, our Hearts may ſurely there be fixed, where true Joys are to be found. Diſpoſe us by all the Means of Grace we enjoy, to attain that everlaſting Salvation thou haſt promiſed.

Teach us, O Lord, ſo to number our Days, that we may apply our Hearts unto Wiſdom; that we may preſs forward toward the Prize of the High Calling that is before us, with Faith and Patience, with Humility and Meekneſs, with Mortification and Self-Denial, with Charity, and conſtant Perſeverance to the End; that ſo when we ſhall depart this Life, we may ſleep in the Lord, and at the general Reſurrection in the laſt Day, we may receive that Bleſſing which thy beloved Son ſhall then confer upon all that truly love and fear thee.

Take us, O Lord, we beſeech thee, into thy Protection this Night, and by thy great Mercy defend us from all the Perils and Dangers of it. Keep us both outwardly in our Bodies, and inwardly in our Souls, that we may be defended from all Adverſities that may happen to the Body,

and

and from all evil Thoughts that may aſſault and hurt the Soul.

Extend thy Goodneſs, O Lord, to the whole Race of Mankind. Have Mercy upon all Jews, Turks, Infidels, and Hereticks; take from them all Ignorance, Hardneſs of Heart, and Contempt of thy Word; and ſo fetch them home to thy Flock, that they may be ſaved with thy People in the great Day of the Lord Jeſus. Grant unto all them that are admitted into the Fellowſhip of Chriſt's Religion, that they may eſchew thoſe Things that are contrary to their Profeſſion, and follow all ſuch Things as are agreeable to the ſame. Bleſs our moſt Gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, our gracious Queen *CAROLINE*, the Royal Iſſue, and the reſt of the Royal Family; and all our Governours both in Church and State; that in their ſeveral Stations they may be uſeful and ſerviceable to thy Glory and the Publick Good. We make our humble Supplications to thee for all our Benefactors, Friends, and Relations, and alſo for our very Enemies; let thy Fatherly Hand be ever over them, and ſo lead them in the Knowledge and Obedience of thy

Word, that in the End, they may obtain everlaſting Life. Look with an Eye of Pity and Compaſſion upon all thoſe who are any Ways afflicted in Mind, Body, or Eſtate; give them Patience under all their Sufferings, and in thy due Time, a happy Iſſue out of all their Afflictions.

And as we pray unto thee, O God, for our ſelves and others; ſo we deſire to bleſs and praiſe thy Holy Name, for all thy Goodneſs and Loving-Kindneſs to us and to all Men. We give thee hearty Thanks for the Preſervation of us the Day paſt, and the reſt of our Lives, from innumerable Accidents and Dangers; for the Comforts and Conveniencies, as well as the Neceſſaries of Life: But above all, we praiſe thee for the Redemption of the World by the Death and Paſſion of our Saviour Chriſt, who did humble himſelf even to the Death of the Croſs, for us miſerable Sinners, who lay in Darkneſs, and in the Shadow of Death, that he might make us the Children of God, and exalt us to everlaſting Life. Teach us to expreſs our Thankfulneſs, by ſubmitting our ſelves entirely to thy Holy Will and Pleaſure, and by ſtudying to ſerve thee in true Holineſs

and

and Righteouſneſs all the Days of our Life. Accept, O Lord, of theſe our Prayers and Praiſes, in and through the Mediation of Jeſus Chriſt, our Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer, who has taught us, when we pray, to ſay,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *Another* Morning Prayer *for a Family.*

ALmighty and Everlaſting God, in whom we live, and move, and have our Being, and whoſe Mercy is over all thy Works; we thy needy Creatures, in a thankful Senſe of thy good Providence over us, do render thee our humbleſt Praiſes for thy Preſervation of us from the Beginning of our Lives to this Time. Bleſſed be thy Holy Name for the continual Protection of thy Hand, by which we have been defended amidſt the Changes and Chances of this mortal Life, and delivered from innumerable Dangers, and particularly from any evil Accident of the Night paſt. To

thy watchful Providence, we wholly owe it,* that no Diſturbance hath come nigh us, or our Dwelling; but that we have enjoyed quiet and refreſhing Sleep, and are brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day. For theſe and all other thy Mercies, our Souls do bleſs and magnifie thy glorious Name, humbly beſeeching thee to accept this our Morning Sacrifice of Praiſe and Thankſgiving, for the Sake of Jeſus Chriſt our Saviour.

* *When Diſturbances of any kind befal a Family, inſtead of this, ſay* [That notwithſtanding our Fears and Dangers, we are brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.]

And ſince it is of thy Mercy, O gracious Father, that another Day is added to our Lives; we here dedicate both our Souls and Bodies to thee and thy Service, to promote thy Glory and our own Salvation, in a ſober, righteous, and godly Life.

But, Lord, thou knoweſt the Weakneſs and Corruption of our Nature, and the manifold Temptations that we daily meet with; we therefore humbly beſeech thee to have Compaſſion upon our Infirmities, and to give us the conſtant Aſſiſtance of thy Grace and Holy Spirit, that we may be

be effectually reſtrained from Sin, and excited to our Duty. Suffer us not to be tempted above what we are able; and when thou ſeeſt us giving Way to any Temptation, ſtretch forth thy helping Hand to ſave and deliver us. Imprint in our Hearts ſuch a Dread of thy Judgments, and ſuch a Love of thy Goodneſs towards us, as may make us both afraid and aſhamed to offend thee: And above all, keep in our Minds a lively Remembrance of that great Day in which we muſt give a ſtrict Account of our Thoughts, Words, and Actions, and according to the Works done in the Body, be either eternally rewarded or puniſhed by him whom thou haſt appointed Judge of Quick and Dead, Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

And that we may be able to give a good Account of this Day, grant us Grace to have thee and thy Law before our Eyes, that we may walk in it according to thy Will, with Watchfulneſs and Circumſpection. Keep us ſober and temperate in our Meat and Drink, and diligent in the ſeveral Callings and Profeſſions which thy Providence hath appointed for us. Grant us Patience under any Affliction thou ſhalt

ſee fit to lay upon us, and Minds always contented with our preſent Condition. Give us Grace to be juſt and upright in all our Dealings, quiet and peaceable among our Neighbours, full of Compaſſion towards the Needy and Afflicted, and ever ready to do good to all Men according to the Abilities and Opportunities which thou ſhalt give us; that ſo walking faithfully before thee all our Days, and being found watching, whenever our appointed Time ſhall come, we may from a Life of Righteouſneſs, be tranſlated to a Life of Glory.

And we humbly beg thy Bleſſing this Day upon our honeſt Deſigns and Undertakings. Direct us in all our Ways, and proſper the Work of our Hands. Let thy good Providence watch over us, and preſerve us in our Going out and Coming in. Defend us from all Dangers and Adverſities, and be thou graciouſly pleas'd to take us, and all Things belonging to us, into thy Fatherly Care and Protection. Theſe Things, O Lord, and whatever elſe thou ſeeſt needful and convenient both for our Souls and Bodies, we humbly beg of thee, for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt;

Chriſt; in whoſe moſt Holy Name and Words, we pray unto thee for our ſelves and all Mankind.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *Another* Evening Prayer *for a Family.*

MOST Gracious and Merciful God, who art of purer Eyes than to behold Iniquity, and haſt promiſed Mercy and Forgiveneſs to all them who confeſs and forſake their Sins; We come before thee in an humble Senſe of our own Unworthineſs, acknowledging our manifold Tranſgreſſions of thy righteous Laws, in Thought, Word, and Deed; we have done thoſe Things which thou haſt forbidden, and left undone the Things which thou haſt commanded; ſo that when we look back upon our paſt Lives, and remember that thou art privy to our moſt ſecret Sins, we are afraid of thy Judgments, and aſhamed to lift up our Eyes unto thee. But, O gracious Father, who deſireſt not the Death of a Sinner, look upon us, we beſeech thee, in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt; for

the Merits of his Sufferings, be thou merciful to us, in the Pardon of our Sins; make us deeply ſenſible of the great Evil and Danger of them, and work in us a hearty Contrition: And grant that the Remembrance of them may be more grievous and afflicting to us, than of any other Evil whatſoever; that we worthily lamenting our Tranſgreſſions, and being brought to a Hatred of our Sins, and a hearty Repentance, may obtain Forgiveneſs at thy Hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent Sinners, for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, our only Saviour and Redeemer.

And leſt, through our own Frailty, or the Temptations that encompaſs us, we be drawn again to our former Sins, vouchſafe us, we beſeech thee, the Direction and Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, that as thou haſt put into our Hearts good Deſires, ſo by the Help of thy Grace, we may bring the ſame to good Effect. Reform whatever thou ſeeſt amiſs in the Temper and Diſpoſition of our Souls; that no unclean Thoughts, unlawful Deſigns, or inordinate Deſires, may reſt there. Purge our Hearts from Envy, Hatred, and Malice; that we may

may never ſuffer the Sun to go down upon our Wrath, but may always go to reſt in Peace, Charity, and Good-Will, with a Conſcience void of Offence towards thee and towards all Men; that ſo our Hearts being a fit Habitation for thy Holy Spirit, he may continually dwell therein; and whether we wake or ſleep, we may be under his bleſſed Protection, and have our whole Spirit, Soul and Body, preſerved pure and blameleſs unto the Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.

Accept, O Lord, as the Teſtimony of our Love and Charity, our hearty Interceſſions for all Mankind. Let the Light of thy Goſpel ſhine upon all Nations; and grant that all who have already heard and receiv'd it, may live ſuitably to it. Be more eſpecially Gracious to this Church and Nation whereunto we belong. Bleſs our moſt Gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, our Gracious Queen *CAROLINE*, the Royal Iſſue, and the reſt of the Royal Family; and all who by thy Providence have Authority under him, both in Church and State; and ſo guide and direct them, that all their Deſigns and Undertakings may tend to the Advancement of thy

Glory, and the Good and Welfare of this Church and Nation. Send down thy Bleſſings, Spiritual and Temporal, upon all our Relations, Friends, and Neighbours; reward all that have done us Good, and pardon all who have done or wiſh'd us Evil, and give them Repentance and better Minds. Be merciful to all who are in any Trouble or Affliction, either of Mind, Body, or Eſtate; and do thou, who art the God of Pity and Compaſſion, adminiſter to every one Help and Comfort, according to their ſeveral Neceſſities, for his ſake who went about doing Good to the Souls and Bodies of Men, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.

We likewiſe add our unfeigned Thanks for all the Mercies which from Time to Time thou haſt vouchſafed us. We bleſs thee for our Being, our Reaſon, and all other Endowments and Faculties of Soul and Body; for our Health, Friends, Food, and Raiment, and all the other Comforts and Conveniencies of Life. But above all, we adore thy tender Mercy in ſending thy only Son into the World, to redeem us from Sin, and Eternal Death, and for giving us any Knowledge and Senſe of our

Duty

Duty towards thee. We bleſs thee for thy Patience with us, notwithſtanding our many and great Provocations; for all the Directions, Aſſiſtances, and Comforts of thy Holy Spirit; for thy continual Care, and watchful Providence over us through the whole Courſe of our Lives; and particularly, for the Mercies and Benefits of the Day paſt; humbly beſeeching thee to continue theſe thy Bleſſings to us, and to give us Grace to ſhew our Senſe of them, and all thy other Mercies, in a ſincere Obedience to thy Laws.

And particularly, O Lord, we beſeech thee, to continue thy gracious Protection to us this Night. Into thy Hands we commend our ſelves, our Souls and Bodies, our Subſtance, Dwelling, and all Things that belong to us: Do thou, O Gracious God, who neither ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt, be pleaſed to take us, and all belonging to us, this Night into thy eſpecial Care and Protection. Defend us from all Danger and Miſchief, and from the Dread and Fear of them; and grant that we may enjoy ſuch quiet and refreſhing Sleep, as may fit us for the Duties of the Day following. And, O Lord, make us ever mind-

mindful of that Time, when we ſhall lie down in the Duſt; and grant us Grace always to live in ſuch a State, that we may never be afraid or unfit to die; but that whether we live, we may live unto thee; or whether we die, we may die unto thee; that ſo living and dying we may be thine; through the Merits and Satisfaction of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt; in whoſe prevailing Name and Words we continue to pray as he hath taught us,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *Another* Morning Prayer *for a Family.*

O Moſt Glorious and Eternal God, thou art righteous in all thy Ways, and holy in all thy Works, infinite in Mercy and Goodneſs to all that call upon thee in Truth, and haſt promiſed that where two or three are gathered together in thy Name, thou wilt be in the midſt of them; look down, we beſeech thee, upon us thy unworthy Servants, who are here before thee, to preſent unto thy Divine Majeſty the Morning

Morning Sacrifice of our unfeigned Praiſes, acknowledging that in thee we live, and move, and have our Being; and that from thy bountiful Hand we have received all the good Things we enjoy, and by thy good Providence are defended from the Evils we deſerve: We deſire, O Lord, in an humble Senſe of thy great Goodneſs towards us, to bleſs and praiſe thy Holy Name; particularly we adore thy Glorious Majeſty for preſerving us this Night paſt, for raiſing us up in Health and Safety, and giving us this Opportunity of calling upon thy Name.

Give us Grace, O Lord, we humbly beſeech thee, to make a right Uſe and Improvement of theſe and all thy other Mercies; and grant that we may henceforward live as becomes the Goſpel of Chriſt, by denying all Ungodlineſs and worldly Luſts, and living ſoberly, righteouſly, and godly in this preſent World.

And becauſe we are not able of our ſelves to pleaſe thee, vouchſafe us, we beſeech thee, the Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, enabling us to withſtand all the Enemies and Hindrances of our Salvation. Enlighten our Underſtandings, that we

may

may know thee; ſanctify our Affections, that we may love thee; and put thy Fear into our Hearts, that we may dread to offend thee. Convince us throughly, O Lord, of the great Evil of Sin, that we may endeavour in all Things to obey thy Bleſſed Will, and to walk before thee in Holineſs and Righteouſneſs all our Days.

Wean our Affections, O Lord, from the Things of this World; and whatever our State and Condition may be here, give us Grace therewith to be content. In all our Paſſage through this Life, and our manifold Concerns about it, grant that in doing our Duty, we may make thee our only Stay and Confidence, our Hope and our Truſt, caſting all our Care upon thee, and entirely reſigning our ſelves to thy good Pleaſure in all Things. Let our chief Aim and Endeavour be, to ſecure the Salvation of our Souls, and to provide againſt that Time, when all earthly Comforts ſhall vaniſh away.

We humbly commend our ſelves, and all our Affairs this Day, to thy Protection and Bleſſing. Be with us in our Going out and Coming in, that no Caſualty or evil Accident may come near to hurt us. Give

us ſuch a Meaſure of Health and other Temporal Bleſſings, as thou ſeeſt beſt and moſt expedient for us; but above all Things, give us thy Grace and Favour, that our Lives may be holy and comfortable here, and our Eternal State happy and glorious with thee hereafter; through the Merits, and for the Sake of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; in whoſe Words we recommend the Wants and Neceſſities of all Mankind together with our own.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *Another* Evening Prayer *for a Family.*

O Moſt Glorious and ever Bleſſed Lord God, who inhabiteſt Eternity, and dwelleſt in that Light which no mortal Eye can approach, we thy ſinful Creatures kneeling before thee, acknowledge we are not worthy to appear in thy Preſence, nor ſo much as to lift up our Eyes to that Place of Purity, where thou dwelleſt. O Lord, though we are thus unworthy to ſpeak unto thee, yet ſo infinite and condeſcending is thy Goodneſs,

neſs, as to encourage our Addreſſes to thee, by many gracious Promiſes of thy Favour and Acceptance; with humble Confidence then, O Lord, we preſume to approach the Throne of thy Grace, humbly beſeeching thee, in the Name, and for the Sake of thy beloved Son, to be merciful unto us in the Pardon and Forgiveneſs of all our Sins.

We acknowledge, O Lord, that we have acted fooliſhly and wickedly, by doing thoſe Things which thou haſt forbidden, and by neglecting to do thoſe Things which thou haſt commanded: O let that Mercy of thine, which has ſpared us ſo long, lead us to Repentance, that we may forſake our evil Ways, and turn unto thee the Lord our God.

Give us Grace, O Lord, ſeriouſly to conſider the great Work we have to do, and the Uncertainty of that Time which thou haſt given us to perform it in, that we may not be ſo fooliſh as to conſume our Days in Vanity and Folly, in gratifying our corrupt Inclinations, and indulging our vicious Appetites. Shew us the Foulneſs and Deformity of Sin, and poſſeſs our Minds with ſuch a lively Senſe of thoſe dread-

dreadful Threatnings thou haſt denounced againſt it, that we may abhor and forſake every evil Way, and give up our ſelves to the Love and Obedience of thy Commandments, making it the great Study and Buſineſs of our Lives to ſerve and pleaſe thee in all Things; ſo ſhall we daily grow in Grace, and be continually advancing towards an happy Eternity.

Give us honeſt and upright Hearts, ſuch as no Intereſt can ſeduce, no Advantage prevail upon to depart from the Ways of Truth and Juſtice; reſtrain us from all immoderate Deſires of the Things of this World, from all Pride and Covetouſneſs, from Envy, Hatred, and Malice, and from all Evil-Speaking, Lying, and Slandering. O be thou pleaſed ſo to conduct us by thy good Spirit through all the Buſineſſes and Employments, through all the Calamities and Troubles of this Life, that (whatever our Condition may be in this World) we may attain that Happineſs, which thou haſt prepared for them that truly love and obey thee.

We beſeech thee to extend thy Mercy to the whole Race of Mankind; make the Light of thy Goſpel to ſhine among them;

and deliver us from all Ignorance, Error, and Profaneneſs, and grant us Grace and Eternal Life.

Be gracious to this Church and Nation to which we belong; give us all Grace ſeriouſly to repent of the Evil of our Ways, and grant that Religion and Virtue, Peace and Charity, may for ever flouriſh and increaſe among us.

Bleſs our Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, and all in Authority under Him, both in Church and State. May all their Deſigns tend to the Advancement of thy Glory, and the Happineſs and Proſperity of theſe Kingdoms!

Look with Pity and Compaſſion, O Lord, upon all in Affliction and Temptation; ſtrengthen and ſupport them, and give them in thy good Time a happy Deliverance.

Be merciful, O God, to all our Relations, Friends, and Acquaintance; forgive our Enemies, reward our Benefactors; and grant that we and all thy People every where may ſerve thee from the higheſt to the loweſt, and be made Partakers of everlaſting Happineſs.

To

To theſe our Prayers and Interceſſions we deſire to add the Sacrifice of our unfeigned Praiſes to thy Divine Majeſty, acknowledging it to be our bounden Duty and Service, at all Times, and in all Places, to give Thanks unto thee, to whoſe infinite Goodneſs and Mercy we owe all the Comforts of this Life, and all the Hopes and Expectations of a better. Bleſſed be thy Name, O God, for the Continuance of thy Mercies to us this Day; for providing for our Bodies, and taking Care for our Souls; and for delivering us from thoſe many Evils that we have juſtly deſerved; but above all, we bleſs and praiſe thy Holy Name for thine ineſtimable Love in the Redemption of the World by our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, humbly beſeeching thee, of thy great Goodneſs, O Lord, to paſs by our Unworthineſs of theſe thy Mercies, and to continue to us thy gracious Favour and Protection; keep us, we beſeech thee, this Night, under the Shadow of thy Wings, that no evil Accident may come near to hurt us. Give us quiet and refreſhing Sleep, ſuch as may fit us for

for the Duties of the Day following; and if thou art pleas'd to add another Day to our Lives, grant that we may improve it to thy Glory, and the Benefit of our precious Souls; through Jeſus Chriſt, our Bleſſed Lord and only Saviour. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

# PRAYERS

FOR

## Perſons in Private,

FOR

## *Every Day in the Week.*

### *A Preparatory Prayer.*

BLeſſed Lord! who haſt commanded, and invited us to pray unto thee; O let thy Spirit help my Infirmities; and do thou ſo diſpoſe my Mind, and prepare my Heart, that my Prayers and Praiſes may be acceptable in thy Sight, through the Mediation, and for the Sake of Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Sunday *Morning.*

O GOD, who art the Giver of all good Gifts, and the Father of Mercies, I thy unworthy Servant adore thy Glorious Majeſty for thoſe marvelous Inſtances of thy Love, which thou haſt in all Ages ſhewn to the Sons of Men: In all thy Dealings and Diſpenſations towards us, thou haſt manifeſted thy ſelf to be a moſt kind and compaſſionate Father; thou haſt provided for the Comfort and Support of our Bodies, and ſhewn a moſt tender Care and Concern for the Welfare and Happineſs of our immortal Souls: In great Mercy to them, thou didſt appoint one Day in ſeven for thy more peculiar Worſhip and Service; that ſo by a frequent and religious Obſervance of the Chriſtian Sabbath here on Earth, we might be better fitted and prepared to celebrate that Eternal Sabbath of everlaſting Reſt, which thou haſt reſerved for us hereafter.

For this, O Lord, and all other the Teſtimonies of thy Love, which thou haſt ſhewn to me, and all Mankind, I deſire

with

with an humble and thankful Heart to bleſs and praiſe thy Holy Name; and more eſpecially for that inexpreſſible Inſtance of thy Love, the ſending thy Son Chriſt Jeſus into the World, to be the Propitiation for our Sins.

I bleſs thee, O Lord, for thy great Goodneſs in preſerving me the Night paſt from all Perils and Dangers, and bringing me in Health and Safety to the Beginning of this Holy Day.

O my God, give me Grace to make a right Uſe and Improvement of this, and all other Opportunities thou art pleaſed to put into my Hands; pardon, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, my Unprofitableneſs under the Means of Grace; and, O merciful Father, let not my Sins provoke thee ſo far, as to deprive me of the Helps and Advantages of thy Divine Inſtitutions; but grant, O Lord, that I may ſpend this and all other Times ſet apart for thy more immediate Service, in ſuch a Holy and Religious Manner, as may promote thy Honour and Glory, and ſet forward the Salvation of my Soul: And that I may be enabled ſo to do, O let thy Grace and Holy Spirit be always preſent with

me

me; for of my ſelf I am not able to pleaſe thee.

Give me awful Thoughts of thy Divine Majeſty, and ſuch an humble, ſerious, and devout Frame of Mind, that when I attend upon the publick Service of thy Church, no vain or tumultuous Thoughts may diſtract my Devotion, nor any dulneſs or wearineſs ſeize upon my Spirits; but from a true Senſe of my own Unworthineſs, and of my entire Dependence upon thee for the Supply of all my Wants, I may pray unto thee, and praiſe thee with moſt devout and hearty Affections, and may offer unto thee a lively Sacrifice, holy and acceptable in thy Sight.

Suffer me not, O merciful Father, to reſt in a meer outward Form of Godlineſs; but grant, that I may endeavour more and more to have my Heart animated and enliven'd with the Spirit and Power of Religion, and to become a true Diſciple of the Bleſſed *JESUS*; by imitating his Example; obſerving his Precepts; and making it the conſtant and principal Care and Concern of my Life, to promote thy Honour, and my own and others Salvation.

Let

Let thy good Spirit, O Lord, be powerfully aſſiſting to the Labours and Endeavours of thoſe, to whom thou haſt committed the Care of Souls, particularly of him, under whoſe Miniſtry thy Providence has plac'd me.

Give thy Bleſſing to thy Holy Word preach'd, and remove from me, and all that attend thy Holy Ordinances, all Prejudices and Indiſpoſitions of Mind, that nothing may hinder its due and ſaving Efficacy upon our Souls. Give us that humble and teachable Spirit, which becomes them that would learn of thee; and O let every good Inſtruction that ſhall this Day be given us, ſink deep into our Hearts, and bring forth in us the Fruits of a Holy and Religious Life, that we may not be Hearers of thy Word only, but Doers alſo, leſt we deceive our own Souls.

Be with me, O Lord, this Day in all Places, and upon all Occaſions: Direct and guide me, ſanctifie and preſerve me. Keep me both outwardly in my Body, and inwardly in my Soul. Defend me from the Power and Malice of the Devil, from the Corruptions of my own ſinful Nature, and from thoſe Sins eſpecially that do

moſt eaſily beſet and enſnare me. Free my Mind from the Diſturbances of Paſſion and Anger, and all perplexing Thoughts and Cares; and ſo ſtrengthen it by thy Grace and Holy Spirit, that nothing may hinder or diſcompoſe me in my Duty, or render me unfit for thy Service. Let me no Ways profane this thy Holy Day, either in Thought, Word, or Deed; but give me Grace to ſpend it in ſuch a Holy and Religious Manner, that every Day of my Life may be the better for it; and when I come to the Concluſion of this Day, I may look back with Joy and Comfort, in an humble Hope of thy Divine Acceptance, through the Merits and Mediation of my dear Redeemer, Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A* Maſter *or* Miſtreſs *of a Family may very properly add this ſhort Prayer.*

MAKE me duly mindful, O Lord, of all thoſe that are under my Care; and grant that none of my Family may, through any Neglect of mine, be ever wanting in their Duty

Duty towards thee. Let the Care of my own Soul be extended likewiſe to a Concern for theirs; and give me ſuch a Zeal for thy Glory, ſuch a true Regard for the Salvation of others, that I may endeavour (as much as in me lies) to promote Religion and Piety in all about me. Convince me truly, O Lord, how much it is my Duty, as well as Intereſt, that I and my Houſe ſhould ſerve thee; that we ſhould daily offer up our united Prayers and Praiſes at the Throne of Grace, and eſpecially upon this Day, ſet apart more peculiarly for thy Service. Be in the midſt of us, O Lord, when we aſſemble our ſelves together; ſend thy Bleſſing upon all our religious Duties; and grant that not only the Form, but the Power of true Religion, may be viſible among us, to our great Comfort in this World, and our Eternal Happineſs in that which is to come. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Sunday *Noon, or any intermediate Time of the Day.*



GOD! who art rich in Mercy to all that call upon thee; and haſt bid us pray without ceaſing, and rejoice evermore. In Obedience to that Command, and encouraged by thy gracious Promiſes, I again approach thy Preſence; To renew my Requeſts unto thee; To bleſs thy Holy Name; To make Profeſſion of my Love to thee, and of my Readineſs in all Things to obey thee. Quicken my Affections, O Lord, that I may be excited to a more free and joyful Attendance upon thee in all Holy and Religious Duties: That no Dulneſs nor Wearineſs may ſeize upon my Spirits, but ſuch a perfect Love to thee may poſſeſs my Heart, as may render all the Imployments of Religion Pleaſant and Delightful to me, and the doing thy Will my greateſt Joy and Satisfaction.

Pardon, O Lord, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, all my Indiſpoſitions; accept my

my imperfect Services; and grant that my Attendance upon the Publick Service of the Church, may diſpoſe me to be more Circumſpect and Watchful in the whole Courſe of my Life; more diligent and induſtrious in thy Service, and more forward and zealous in the Performance of every Part of my Duty; that being led by thy Counſel, governed by thy Spirit, and preſerved by thy gracious Providence, I may at laſt be admitted into the Company of the Bleſſed; there to perfect my Praiſes and Acknowledgments, and to receive the Reward of patient Continuance in Well-doing, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *Short Heads of* Examination *for the Evening.*

'THAT your whole *Life* may be more conformable to the *Goſpel* of *Jeſus Chriſt*, by which we muſt 'be judged, and that you may have leſs 'to do, when you ſet a Time apart for

'more *ſolemn Examination*, it has been 'adviſed by wiſe and good Men, that we 'ſhould every Evening put ſome ſuch Que-'ſtions as theſe to our ſelves, which are 'chiefly tranſcribed out of that excellent 'Book, entituled, *A Companion for the 'Feſtivals and Faſts of the Church.*

How have I ſpent the Day paſt? What Sin have I committed?

Have I performed my Morning Devotions? and how?

Have I reſign'd my ſelf to the All-wiſe Government, and diſpoſal of God, to be ordered and ruled by him, and to do or ſuffer his Will?

Have I converſed with Candor, Affability, and Sincerity?

Have I kept at a Diſtance from Detraction, Slander, and evil Speaking?

Have I had ſufficient Care in my Commendation of others, ſo as to give no Encouragement to any evil Practice?

How have I employ'd or improv'd my Time?

With what Honeſty and Fidelity have I diſcharged the Affairs in which I have been engaged?

If I have diverted my ſelf, have I done it innocently, and in ſuch Manner and Meaſure as is ſuitable to my Chriſtian Profeſſion?

Have I been guilty of any Exceſs in Eating, or Drinking, or Sleep?

What Mercies have I received? How thankful have I been, and am I for them? What Temptations have I reſiſted?

What Ground have I got of the Sin that doth moſt eaſily beſet me?

How have I governed my Paſſions? Have I not been too eaſily provoked by little Accidents which daily happen?

What Opportunities have I had of doing Good? and how have I improved them?

What Opportunities have I had of diſcouraging Evil, and how have I oppoſed it?

'To theſe Queſtions you may add ſuch 'others as you find uſeful. If you recol-'lect the whole Time of the Day from your 'riſing (for which a few Minutes before 'your Evening Devotions will ſuffice) you 'will very eaſily be enabled to anſwer the 'preceeding Queſtions; and when you

'have done this, you muſt heartily beg 'God's Pardon for any Sins you have 'been guilty of, and ſhew your ſelf thank-'ful for thoſe Bleſſings, reſpecting either 'this or another Life, which he hath be-'ſtowed on you.

'Some have written down the Sins they 'have been guilty of, that they might a-'gain humble themſelves at the Time of 'their more ſolemn Humiliation; which 'may be farther uſeful; for by comparing 'one Time with another, you will better 'diſcern the Amendment of your Life, and 'Growth in Chriſtian Virtue; but of the 'Uſefulneſs and Expediency of this Method, 'every Perſon is left to judge for him-'ſelf.

## *A Prayer for* Sunday *Evening.*

O Moſt great, moſt glorious, and Eternal God! Thou art the Sovereign Lord of Heaven and Earth; in whom we live, and move, and have our Being, and from whom are deriv'd all the Comforts and Conveni-

encies

encies of this Life, and all our Hopes and Expectations of a better.

With what Awfulneſs and Humility, with what Fear and Reverence, ought I to appear before thee, when I conſider the Greatneſs of thy Majeſty, and the Purity of thy Divine Nature; that thou haſt no Pleaſure in Wickedneſs, but hateſt all the Workers of Iniquity, and that ſuch as be fooliſh ſhall not ſtand in thy Sight.

O Lord! I acknowledge, that I am not worthy to come into thy Preſence, nor to lift up my Eyes towards the Throne of thy Mercy-ſeat. My Sins and Tranſgreſſions are many, and divers of them have been often repeated; the Corruption of my Heart, and the ſinfulneſs of my Thoughts are perfectly known to thee; and the Puniſhment due unto my Sins, is greater than I am able to bear.

I confeſs, O Lord, that I have not [ſerved] thee with that Sincerity, nor ſerv'd [thee] with that Faithfulneſs that I ought [to have] done. The Intereſts of this Life have [had] ſo much my Care and Concern, [as to] make me negligent and remiſs in the [more] and important Work of my Salvation.

How many Duties have I omitted, or perform'd with Coldneſs and Indevotion! How often have I been a Hearer of thy Word only, and not a Doer! How often, both in Publick and Private, have I prayed, when my Heart has been far from thee! This very Day, O Lord, thou haſt given me an Opportunity of ſerving thee in thy Houſe; but, alas! my Services there have been accompanied with ſo many Failings, ſo many Imperfections, that I have juſt Cauſe to humble my ſelf before thee.

O Lord! if thou ſhouldeſt deal with me as I have deſerved, how juſtly may'ſt thou deprive me of all thoſe Means of Grace, and Opportunities of working out my Salvation, which thou haſt hitherto vouchſafed me: But, O merciful Father! thou haſt declared thy ſelf to be a God merciful and Gracious, forgiving Iniquity, tranſgreſſion, and Sin. My only Hope, therefore, is in thy tender Mercies, which have been ever of old; and in that Pity and Compaſſion, which thou haſt ſhewn to Mankind, in the Redemption of the World, by the Death of thy dear Son. For thy Name's ſake then, O Lord, and for thy dear Son's ſake, pardon, I moſt humbly

bly beſeech thee, all my paſt Sins, and let not Iniquity be my Ruine. Forgive the Deadneſs of my Devotion; the Coldneſs of my Affections; the Wandrings of my Prayers; and whatever elſe thou haſt ſeen amiſs in me. O pity my Weakneſſes, and forgive my Infirmities, and lay not to my Charge the Imperfections of my religious Duties.

Enable me, O Lord, by the Aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, to amend whatever has been amiſs, and to endeavour more and more after the Attainment of all thoſe Graces and good Diſpoſitions which are neceſſary to render our Prayers and Praiſes acceptable in thy Sight.

O let me never fall into a careleſs and unconcerned State of Mind; into a Coldneſs and Indifferency towards the Duties of Religion; but animate and enliven my ſluggiſh Heart, and cleanſe it from all its Defilements: O! repleniſh my Soul with the Graces of thy Holy Spirit; that I may become vigorous and active in thy Service, and fruitful in every good Work.

Give me, O Lord, ſuch a lively Senſe and Conviction of the Shortneſs and Uncertainty of this Life, and of the momen-

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Let the Salvation of my precious Soul be my conſtant Care and Concern; grant that I may never forget the one Thing needful; but give all Diligence to make my Calling and Election ſure; that endeavouring in all Things to approve my ſelf thy faithful Servant, I may from ſerving thee here upon Earth, be admitted, in thy good appointed Time, to the praiſing thee eternally in thy everlaſting Kingdom, through the Merits of my compaſſionate Saviour and Redeemer, Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

*The*

## *The Interceſſion.*

O God, who art loving unto every Man, and whoſe Mercy is over all thy Works; I beſeech thee to extend thy Pity and Compaſſion to the whole Race of Mankind; Let the bright Beams of thy Goſpel ſhine into all the Corners of the Earth; that thoſe that ſit in Darkneſs, may come to the Knowledge and Practice of thy Laws, and their Souls be ſaved in the great Day of the Lord Jeſus.

More particularly, O Lord, be merciful to theſe Nations to which I belong: Pardon our great and crying Sins, and avert from us the Evils which we have moſt juſtly deſerved: Put a Stop to all Profaneneſs, Irreligion and Impiety; to all our unhappy Strifes and Animoſities; and let Truth and Righteouſneſs, brotherly Love and Charity, flouriſh and increaſe among us.

Be gracious to thy holy Catholick Church; and eſpecially to that Part of it, which thou haſt planted in theſe Kingdoms: Heal the Breaches and Diviſions of it;

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How many Duties have I omitted, or perform'd with Coldneſs and Indevotion! How often have I been a Hearer of thy Word only, and not a Doer! How often, both in Publick and Private, have I prayed, when my Heart has been far from thee! This very Day, O Lord, thou haſt given me an Opportunity of ſerving thee in thy Houſe; but, alas! my Services there have been accompanied with ſo many Failings, ſo many Imperfections, that I have juſt Cauſe to humble my ſelf before thee.

O Lord! if thou ſhouldeſt deal with me as I have deſerved, how juſtly may'ſt thou deprive me of all thoſe Means of Grace, and Opportunities of working out my Salvation, which thou haſt hitherto vouchſafed me: But, O merciful Father! thou haſt declared thy ſelf to be a God merciful and Gracious, forgiving Iniquity, tranſgreſſion, and Sin. My only Hope, therefore, is in thy tender Mercies, which have been ever of old; and in that Pity and Compaſſion, which thou haſt ſhewn to Mankind, in the Redemption of the World, by the Death of thy dear Son. For thy Mercy's ſake then, O Lord, and for thy dear Son's ſake, pardon, I moſt humbly

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Be gracious to thy holy Catholick Church; and eſpecially to that Part of it, which thou haſt planted in theſe Kingdoms: Heal the Breaches and Diviſions of it;

and

and grant that it may flouriſh and abound in true Piety and Virtue, Peace and Charity.

Bleſs eſpecially our Sovereign Lord the King, protect his Perſon, direct his Councils, proſper his Government, and make him an Inſtrument, in thy Hands, of great Good to theſe Kingdoms.

Inſpire the Paſtors and Governors of thy Church, with a Spirit of true Religion and Goodneſs; and make them zealous and diligent to promote it, in all thoſe who are under their Charge.

Bleſs the Magiſtrates, the Nobility, Gentry, and Commons of theſe Realms: Grant that they may all ſtudy to ſerve thee, and to diſcharge the Duties of their ſeveral Stations, always remembring the great Account which they muſt one Day give.

Be merciful, O God, to all that are in any Affliction or Diſtreſs; that labour under Poverty or Perſecution, under bodily Pains or Diſeaſes, or under Temptation or Trouble of Mind; be pleaſed, O Lord, to ſupport and comfort them, and in thy good Time to deliver them according to thy great Mercy.

Send

Send down the Graces of thy Holy Spirit upon all my Friends and Relations; [*Particularly my Father and Mother, my Brothers and Sisters; my dear Wife and Children*] pardon all our Sins; unite our Hearts in a mutual Love of each other; and vouchsafe to every one of us, (and all others that either pray for me, or desire my Prayers) whatever thy infinite Wisdom knows to be most needful and expedient both for our Souls and Bodies. Reward all those who have been any ways instrumental to my Good; and forgive those that have done, or wish'd me Evil, and grant them Repentance and better Minds.

*Let this be varied as every one stands Related.*

*The Thanksgiving.*

And now, O merciful Father, I offer up to thy Divine Majesty my unfeigned Praises, in return for all those numberless Mercies and Benefits which thou hast vouchsafed me; more particularly I bless thy holy Name for the Mercies of the Day past; for whatever Sin I have escaped, and whatever Good I have done; for preserving me in Health and Safety; for providing so plentifully for me; for continuing to me the

En-

Enjoyment of ſo many Comforts; and for delivering me from the Evils which I have moſt juſtly deſerved, and to which I am continually expoſed. But above all, I bleſs and magnifie thy holy Name for the Foundation of theſe and all thy other Mercies, thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

*A Prayer for God's Protection the enſuing Night.*

O Lord, give me Grace to make a right Uſe and Improvement of all thy Mercies. Vouchſafe me the continuance of thy Favour and Protection; Take me this Night under the Care of thy good Providence; preſerve me from all Evil, but eſpecially from that of Sin; keep me from Fire and Thieves, and from every Adverſity of Soul and Body; and after the comfortable Refreſhments of Reſt and Sleep, raiſe me up, I humbly pray thee, in Health and Safety, with a Heart full of Love to thee, and Zeal to thy Service, through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer; in whoſe prevailing Name and Words I continue to pray,

*Our Father, &c.*

## *A Prayer for* Monday *Morning.*



Father of Mercies, and God of all Comfort! thou art the ſweet Refreſhment of our Souls, and the conſtant Preſerver and Support of our Bodies: By thee have I been holden up ever ſince I was born; and by thy Goodneſs it is, that I have been preſerved the Night paſt from all Perils and Dangers, and that my frail Body has been refreſh'd with quiet and comfortable Reſt. Great and numberleſs have been thy Mercies to me, O God; for which I deſire, with an humble and thankful Heart, to bleſs and praiſe thy holy Name.

O that a Senſe of thy Goodneſs may be always preſent to my Mind; that ſo the Remembrance of thy paſt Favours may beget in me, ſuch an humble Reliance on thy fatherly [illegible] Providence, that I may [illegible] my ſelf to thy Diſpoſ[illegible] and entirely ſubmit to [illegible] and Diſpenſations towards [illegible]

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I confeſs, O Lord, that I am not worthy of the leaſt of all thy Mercies; and if thou ſhouldeſt deal with me as I have deſerved, I could expect nothing from thee, but the Severities of thy Wrath and Diſpleaſure: But, O thou! whoſe Property is always to have Mercy; be not extream, I beſeech thee, to mark what I have done amiſs; but for thy dear Son's ſake, pardon all my Sins, and receive me to thy Favour, without which, I am of all Creatures the moſt miſerable. And, O let me never abuſe thy Patience, nor deſpiſe thy Goodneſs; but let thy Fear be always before my Eyes, that I may not ſin againſt thee; but giving up my ſelf entirely to thy Service, I may endeavour in all Things to obey thy bleſſed Will, and to keep a Conſcience void of Offence both towards thee, and towards all Men.

To this End, O Lord, vouchſafe me the Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, for of my ſelf I am not able to pleaſe thee; my Nature is corrupt, and miſerably prone to what is Evil; I am every Way beſet with Temptations, and my own Experience ſadly teaches me, how eaſily I am drawn away by the deceitful Tempter. But,

O

O thou who art the Saviour of all that put their Truſt in thee, deliver me, I beſeech thee, from that cruel Enemy of my Soul, who is daily lying in Wait to deſtroy me; be thou my ſtrong hold whereunto I may always reſort, and evermore mightily defend me; thou haſt been my Succour ever ſince I was born, O leave me not to my ſelf, neither forſake me, O God of my Salvation. Lead me, I beſeech thee, in the Way wherein I ſhould go; guide me by thy Right-Hand; and conduct me ſafely through the dangerous Snares and Temptations of this deceitful World; and though thou ſhould'ſt permit me to fall into ſevere Trials, yet ſuffer me not, I beſeech thee, to be tempted above what I am able to bear.

Let no Calamity ever drive me from thee, nor any Proſperity cauſe me to forget thee; but grant that all thy Providences towards me may work together for my Good, and be a powerful Means to bring me to thy Self, and to an entire Dependance upon thee; aſſuredly believing that all my Concernments are in the beſt and ſafeſt Hands, when they are under the Care and Diſpoſal of thy infinite Wiſdom and Goodneſs.

O Lord! let not the World get Poſſeſſion of my Heart, which has been ſo often dedicated to thy Service. Let not thoſe Pomps and Vanities, which I have ſo ſolemnly renounc'd, become the Object of my fooliſh Deſires; but be thou, O God, my only Joy and my Delight, my Stay and Support, my Hope and my Truſt, my Reſt and Comfort in this World, and my eternal Bliſs and Happineſs in that which is to come.

O Lord, I humbly beg thy Bleſſing this Day upon all my honeſt Deſigns and Undertakings; direct me in all my Ways, that I may take nothing in Hand but what is agreeable to thy bleſſed Will. Let no worldly Intereſt or Advantage ever prevail upon me to depart from my Integrity; but amidſt the various Affairs of this Life, give me Grace to ſet thee always before my Eyes, that I may not ſin againſt thee. Thou knoweſt, Lord, the Weakneſſes of my corrupt Nature; O let thy Holy Spirit powerfully reſtrain me from thoſe Sins that are moſt apt to betray and inſnare me, [* *particularly*] Preſerve me in my Going out and Coming

* *Here may be named the Sins you are moſt prone to.*

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ing in, and let no Caſualty or evil Accident befal me. Be thou graciouſly pleaſed to take me, and all belonging to me, into thy Fatherly Care and Protection: Keep us in Health and Safety, in Peace and Innocence, in Love and Charity; and grant that whilſt we are paſſing through Things Temporal, we may be daily preparing for thoſe better Things that are Eternal; through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Lord and only Saviour; in whoſe Name and Words, I commend to thy Mercy and Protection, my ſelf and all Mankind.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Monday *Noon, or any intermediate time of the Day.*

I.

O My God! infinite in Goodneſs, and boundleſs in Mercy to all who love and obey thee; grant me Grace, I beſeech thee, to love thee with all my Heart, with all my Soul, and with all my Strength, and for thy ſake to love all Men as my ſelf. Give me

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a Charitable Opinion of them all, whether Friends or Enemies; ſuffer me not raſhly to judge or contemn any Perſon, of what State or Condition ſoever; and if it be my own Lot to be deſpiſed and rejected by others, teach me therewith to be content.

Grant that I may never ſtudy to pleaſe Men in any Thing, whereby I may be in danger of diſpleaſing thee; and that it may always be my chief and only deſire to promote thy Honour, and to fulfil in all Things thy moſt Holy Will.

Give me Grace, O Heavenly Father, to be entirely ſubmiſſive and contented under all the Afflictions, Diſappointments, and Sufferings, which it is thy Pleaſure I ſhould endure, and which thy Wiſdom ſhall judge proper and uſeful to advance me towards thee. And grant that by every Tribulation and Adverſity which may befal me, whether directly from thy Hand, or from Men, as thy Inſtruments, I may be weaned from the World, and more cloſely united to thee.

O heavenly Father, I beſeech thee, by the Merits and Death of thy Son, to give me Grace to have thee always before my Eyes;

Eyes; and with an holy Fear ſeriouſly to conſider the Hour of my Death, which is ſo uncertain; the ſhortneſs of my Life, of which, alas! I have ſo unprofitably, for Trifles, already loſt ſo great a part; the Day of Judgment, which is ſo awful to the Good, and terrible to the Wicked; and upon the infinite and eternal Puniſhments, which ſhall then be inflicted upon impenitent Sinners.

And finally grant, O infinite Bounty! that I may never ſeek or find Peace or Pleaſure in any Thing without thy Self, and that thy Will may be the Rule of my Conduct, and of all my Actions in this World, and thou thy Self my eternal Bliſs and Happineſs in that which is to come.

II.

O moſt gracious Saviour! keep me from preſuming on my own Sufficiency; from relying on my own Actions, and on my own Conduct. Grant that I may not truſt in any Thing but in thee alone, and in thy All-ſufficient Merits, that all my Hope, and all my Confidence may be in them; yet ſo as never to make me neglect any Opportunity of performing that which thy Grace hath enabled me to do.

Wound my Heart, O Bleſſed Jeſus! with the Darts of thy Divine Love; and deliver me from all the Inclinations of impure and deceitful Self-love. Raiſe my Deſires, enlighten mine Eyes, and touch my Soul, in order to give me the true Knowledge and Senſe of thy Love, of thy Mercies, of thy Wiſdom, and of thy Power; as alſo of my own Nothingneſs; of my Darkneſs and Unfaithfulneſs; of my Folly and Wickedneſs; of my Miſery, and of my Weakneſs.

O deareſt Redeemer! Grant I may never loſe the Memory of thy Paſſion and Death, but may always have recourſe to thy Merits and Sufferings, as to an aſſured Refuge, and as a bleſſed Means of Reconciliation to my offended God; and that I may look on thy Wounds as an effectual Remedy to cure all the Defilements and Corruptions of my ſinful Nature.

O Prince of Love! fill me ſo with thy Divine Love, that for the ſake thereof all Toil and Travel, all Dangers and Difficulties may be ſweet and eaſie to me; and that in compariſon of thy ſacred Love, I may look upon all the Creatures, all their Comforts, all their Joys, and all

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their Recreations as mean and contemptible; that whenſoever thy infinite Wiſdom ſhall think fit to withdraw them from me, I may feel as great cheerfulneſs in ſubmitting to the Want of them, as I have ſometimes found Reluctancy to be depriv'd of them. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Monday *Evening.*

O Thou Great and Glorious God, who takeſt Pleaſure in thoſe that come unto thee with Faith; look down, I beſeech thee, with Pity and Compaſſion, upon me, who fall low on my Knees before thee, confeſſing that my Life has been in divers Inſtances very provoking to thy Divine Majeſty.

What ſhall I ſay unto thee, O thou Preſerver of Men! O my God, I have nothing to plead in my Behalf, but the infinite Merits of my dear Redeemer: O let his Blood make Satisfaction for me; and for his ſake, I moſt earneſtly beſeech thee to be merciful unto me in the Pardon and Forgiveneſs of all my Sins. Lay not

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my charge, O Lord, the Sins which I have this Day been guilty of, but let thoſe and all other the Follies of my Life paſt, be for ever blotted out of thy Remembrance; and receive me, I beſeech thee, into thy Favour, which I value above all the Happineſs of this World.

Give me a lively Senſe of the Folly and Danger of Sin, that I may truly and ſincerely abhor that which is Evil, cleave to that which is Good, and with an unwearied Diligence follow after the Things which make for my everlaſting Peace.

But, O Lord, becauſe I am a weak and frail Creature, and am encompaſs'd about with many Temptations, O do thou vouchſafe to ſtrengthen and aſſiſt me with thy Grace, that through thy moſt mighty Power, I may be enabled to withſtand all the Allurements of the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil; [particularly —— *here name the Sins you are moſt prone to.*] Let thy holy Spirit direct and rule my Heart, that I may think and do always ſuch Things as be rightful, and pleaſe thee both in Will and Deed.

Thou never faileſt to help and govern them, who fly unto thee for Succour; O keep

keep me, I beſeech thee, under the Conduct of thy good Providence, and make me to have a perpetual Fear and Love of thy holy Name, that I may never dare to do any Thing that will offend thee, but be at all Times ready to obey thy bleſſed Will, and chearfully to accompliſh thoſe Things which thou wouldeſt have me to do.

Let no Difficulties or Dangers in my Chriſtian Warfare, affrighten me from my Duty; but give me ſuch a Courage and Reſolution, as will ſupport me under all Diſcouragements, carry me through all Trials, and enable me to Triumph over the great Enemy of my Salvation; that having by thy Divine Aſſiſtance fought the good Fight, and finiſh'd my Courſe, I may at laſt receive that Crown of Glory, which thou haſt promiſed to thy faithful Soldiers and Servants, through the Merits, and for the ſake of the Great Captain of our Salvation, Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous.

Extend thy Mercies, O Lord, to the whole Race of Mankind, and in a more particular manner be gracious to this Church and Nation; bleſs all Degrees of

Men among us, from the higheſt to the loweſt, and more eſpecially thy Servant, our Sovereign Lord the King. And grant that every one, from the higheſt to the loweſt, may faithfully endeavour to promote thy Glory, and the publick Good.

Look with Pity and Compaſſion upon all in Affliction; ſtrengthen and ſupport them under their Troubles, and give them, in thy good Time, eaſe and deliverance.

Bleſs all my Friends and Relations, [*more particularly* **] vouchſafe to ſuit thy Graces and Bleſſings to our ſeveral Neceſſities of Body and Soul.

And now, O Father of Mercies! in an humble Senſe of thy great Goodneſs, I adore and praiſe thy glorious Majeſty for all thy manifold Bleſſings and Mercies; particularly for thoſe of the Day paſt: I bleſs thee, O Lord, for whatever Good I have done, and whatever Evil I have eſcaped; for preſerving me in Health and Safety; for providing ſo plentifully for me; but above all, I praiſe and magnifie thy Holy Name, for the Redemption of the World, by the Death and Paſſion of thy [illegible]; O give me Grace, to make

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a right Uſe and Improvement of theſe and all thy other Mercies: Be thou pleaſed, O Lord, ſtill to continue to me thy Favour and Protection: Preſerve me this Night from all Evil, but eſpecially from that of Sin; give thy holy Angels charge over me, that no evil Accident comes near to hurt me; and raiſe me up again in Health and Safety, with a Heart full of Love to thee, and Zeal to thy Service, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, who has taught us thus to pray,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Tueſday *Morning.*

HOLY, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and which is, and which is to come; thou art worthy to receive all Glory, Honour, and Power; for thou haſt created all Things, and for thy Pleaſure they are and were created.

I adore thee, my God, and entire Reſignation of my Soul, and all I am, and have, into thy

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O God, moſt gracious Father in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord, I thank thee for the comfortable Refreſhment of the Night paſt, for thy Preſervation of me and my Family, and all belonging to me, from Fire, Robbery, and Tempeſt, and other evil Accidents. Without thy Goodneſs and Providence, I am not able to ſubſiſt the leaſt Moment. To thee I owe all thoſe Comforts of Life, Health, Peace, and Plenty, I enjoy, and a Freedom from all thoſe Pains, and Miſeries, and Evils, I am ſubject to, and have deſerved at thy Hands. I deſire, above all Things, to give moſt humble and hearty Thanks to thee, O God the Father, for the Redemption of the World by thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, manifeſted in the Fleſh to deſtroy the Works of the Devil. I glorifie thee for his miraculous Birth, Life, Death, Reſurrection, and Aſcenſion, for his Interceſſion for us at thy Right Hand, for the ſending the Holy Ghoſt the Comforter and

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Sanctifier, and for the Means of Grace, and Hopes of Glory.

O Lord, I beſeech thee, in and through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, who was pleaſed to ſuffer Death upon the Croſs for our Redemption, to pardon all the Sins I have at any Time committed; and grant I may find the Power of his Death, in my dying to Sin, and riſing unto Righteouſneſs, in having the Old Man, all worldly Affections and carnal Luſts, crucified with Him; that the Body of Sin in me may be deſtroyed, that henceforth I may not ſerve Sin; but being freed from Sin, all Things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in me.

But foraſmuch as without thee I am not able to pleaſe thee, give me, I beſeech thee, this Day, and all my Life, the Supplies of thy Grace and Holy Spirit, enabling me to reſiſt and overcome the Temptations of the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil, to ſubdue and mortifie my Luſts and Paſſions, to purifie my Soul from all Sin and Uncleanneſs, and to bring forth the Fruits of the Spirit in a holy and uſeful Life.

Grant I may order all my Words and Actions, and all my Converſation, with ſuch Care and Prudence, as to give no Offence or Occaſion of Falling to any; but that I may be a good Example to others, and adorn the Doctrine of God our Saviour in all Things. O let thy Holy Spirit always direct and rule my Heart, and of thy great Goodneſs bring me to Life eternal.

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And thou, O God and heavenly Father, who haſt promiſed to them that ſeek thy Kingdom, and the Righteouſneſs thereof, all Things neceſſary to their bodily Suſtenance, continue to me, I beſeech thee, the Bleſſings I enjoy, ſupply me with thoſe I want, and turn from me all thoſe Evils which I moſt righteouſly have deſerved; or which either the Malice of the Devil, or the Wickedneſs or Misfortunes of the World, might bring upon me. Let all Things that befal me in this World, work together for my Good in the other; and grant me always

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I reſign, O Lord, and give my ſelf to thy Providence; I ſubmit my ſelf to all the Events which it ſhall pleaſe Thee to bring upon me: Do with me what thou ſeeſt good, and let thy holy Will be done in me, and by me, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

O bleſſed Lord, whoſe Mercies are over all thy Works, ſpread the Knowledge of the Goſpel all over the World, and grant that all Chriſtians may live according to it, and teſtifie they are Diſciples of their Lord, by doing Good, and loving one another.

Bleſs our moſt gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, and proſper his Government; and grant that all employed under him may diſcharge their ſeveral Offices faithfully to thy Glory, and the Publick Good.

Preſerve and ſanctifie more and more thy Church Univerſal; ſupport and aſſiſt the Paſtors and Miniſters of thy [illegible]

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always thoſe Things, whether proſperous or adverſe, that may beſt conduce, and be moſt profitable to my Eternal Salvation.

I reſign, O Lord, and give my ſelf to thy Providence; I ſubmit my ſelf to all the Events which it ſhall pleaſe Thee to bring upon me: Do with me what thou ſeeſt good, and let thy holy Will be done in me, and by me, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

O bleſſed Lord, whoſe Mercies are over all thy Works, ſpread the Knowledge of the Goſpel all over the World, and grant that all Chriſtians may live according to it, and teſtifie they are Diſciples of their Lord, by doing Good, and loving one another.

Bleſs our moſt gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, and proſper his Government; and grant that all employed under him may diſcharge their ſeveral Offices faithfully to thy Glory, and the Publick Good.

Preſerve and ſanctifie more and more thy Church Univerſal; ſupport and aſſiſt the Paſtors and Miniſters of thy Word and

Sacraments; particularly him, under whom thy Providence has placed me.

Relieve and Comfort all in Affliction, deliver them out of all their Troubles, and grant they may ſeriouſly conſider thy Hand, and duly improve their Adverſity.

Grant to all harden'd Sinners Opportunity and Means of Repentance, and Grace to make a due Uſe thereof.

Strengthen the yet weak in Faith and Godlineſs, that they may endure Temptation, and raiſe up them that fall.

Grant Perſeverance and Advancement in Holineſs to thoſe who love and fear thee, and enable them to bring forth much Fruit.

Bleſs particularly thoſe Perſons who exerciſe Works of Piety and Charity in thy Church; eſpecially the Religious and other Societies in this Realm for the Propagation of the Goſpel in Foreign Parts, for promoting Chriſtian Knowledge at Home, for pious Conference and Charity, and for putting the Laws in Execution againſt Vice and Immorality; and increaſe the Number of them.

Send down, moſt bountiful Lord God, thy Bleſſings Spiritual and Temporal upon

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*my Family*, and all my Relations, Friends, and Acquaintance, eſpecially on thoſe who are moſt dear to me, particularly on *my Wife and Children*, and thoſe who pray for me, or have deſired my Prayers; and give us all whatever thou ſeeſt neceſſary and convenient either for our Souls or Bodies.

Reward all who have done me Good, and pardon all who have done or wiſh'd me Evil; and work in them and me all that Good which may make us acceptable in thy Sight, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Tueſday Noon, *or any intermediate Time of the Day, being a ſhort* Paraphraſe *on the* Lord's-Prayer.

ALmighty God, the Creator and Governour of all Things, and the moſt bountiful Benefactor of thoſe who fear and obey thee, grant that all reaſonable Creatures, who are capable of underſtanding the Greatneſs and Glory of thy Attributes, may unfeignedly admi-

mire and adore thee, and expreſs their Veneration and Praiſes of thee, in Ways moſt ſuitable to the Condition of their Nature, and the Diſcoveries of thy Will.

Grant that all Mankind may come to the Knowledge and Belief of thy true Religion; that the Kingdom of Chriſt may be extended over all the Earth; and the Eternal Laws of Godlineſs, Righteouſneſs, Charity, and Sobriety, may be eſtabliſhed throughout the whole World.

Grant that all who profeſs this thy true Religion, may live in perfect Obedience to the Laws thereof; and that Men, as the Infirmity of their Nature will permit, may obey thee with proportionable Sincerity and Conſtancy, as do the Spirits of the Bleſſed in Heaven.

Beſtow on us every Day, through the remaining Part of our Lives, as many of the Things of this preſent World, as are ſufficient for our neceſſary Subſiſtence, and for the uſeful and innocent Conveniencies of Life.

Forgive us our Sins, and with-hold the Puniſhments we have thereby deſerved, in like manner as we freely and heartily forgive all thoſe Injuries and Offen-

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ces, which have by others been done unto us.

Take from us the Cauſes and Occaſions of Temptations, or elſe deliver us from the Power of them, that we may not be moved either with the Enticements of Riches, Honours, or Pleaſures; or with the Fear of Want, Diſgrace, or Pain, to do any Thing knowingly contrary to thy Will; and deliver us from all the Evils and Calamities, which either the Malice of the Devil, or the Wickedneſs or Misfortunes of the World, might bring upon us. Theſe Petitions we beg of thee, O God, knowing that thou *canſt*, and truſting in thy Mercy that thou *wilt* do for us more than we can deſire, or do deſerve, who art infinite in Power, Glory, and Majeſty, from everlaſting to everlaſting. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Tueſday *Evening.*



Moſt Great and Glorious Lord God; who art juſt and terrible in thy Judgments to all obſtinate and rebellious Sin-

but of infinite Pity and Compaſſion to ſuch as truly repent and turn unto thee! Hear, I beſeech thee, the Prayers of thy humble Servant, for the Pardon and Forgiveneſs of all my Sins.

O let the infinite Value of the Sufferings of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt be accepted by thee, as an Attonement for all my Follies and Tranſgreſſions; and for his ſake, I beſeech thee to be reconciled unto me, who acknowledge my Vileneſs, and am unfeignedly ſorry that I have ever offended thee, to whom I owe all the Returns of Love, Duty, and Obedience, that can poſſibly be paid by a Creature to his Creator.

Give me ſuch a true and unfeigned Repentance of all my Sins, as may produce in me a thorough Change and Amendment of Life: Open thou my Eyes, that I may ſee and obſerve all the evil Diſpoſitions of my corrupt Nature, and by the Aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, may be enabled to mortifie and ſubdue them, and to bring my Mind to an entire Conformity to thy bleſſed Will.

Grant that the Remembrance of my paſt Follies and Miſcarriages may make me more

careful

careful of my Actions for the Time to come, and more watchful againſt thoſe Snares and Temptations, which have at any Time betray'd me.

Let the Conſideration of thy Patience and Forbearance excite in my Heart ſuch a ſincere Love to thee, and ſuch a Fear of Offending thee, that neither Riches nor Honour, nor any Thing elſe that this World can offer, may be ever able to draw me from my Duty.

Convince me, O Lord, that Sin is the greateſt of all Evils; that Guilt and Miſery are always inſeparable; and that there is no true Happineſs in this Life, but what reſults from the Teſtimony of a good Conſcience, and the Hopes of thy Favour; and grant that theſe momentous Truths may be ſo deeply impreſt on my Mind, that I may make it the great Study and Care of my whole Life to be of the Number of thoſe, whom thou loveſt and delighteſt in.

Give me Grace, O merciful Father, to lay aſide every Weight, and the Sin that does ſo eaſily beſet me, that I may run with Patience the Race which thou haſt ſet before me. Deliver me from an immo-

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derate Care and Concern for the Things of this World; and give me ſuch an entire Acquieſcence in thy Divine Will and Pleaſure, ſuch a perfect Dependance on thy infinite Wiſdom and Goodneſs, that no envious nor diſcontented, no murmuring nor repining Thoughts may poſſeſs my Heart; but a chearful and thankful Spirit may at all Times rule and govern me: And whatever Share of Temporal good Things thou ſhalt be pleaſed to give me, O give me Grace to employ it to thy Glory, the Good of others, and the Eternal Benefit of my immortal Soul. All which I humbly beg, for the alone Merits and Sake of thy beloved Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

Extend thy Mercy, O God, to all Mankind: In a more particular manner be gracious to theſe ſinful Nations; pardon our great and crying Sins; avert the Judgments which we have moſt juſtly deſerved, and give us Grace to turn from all our evil Ways, that thou may'ſt delight to dwell among us, and may'ſt be our God, and we thy People.

Bleſs and preſerve our Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, and grant that all who are in Authority under him, may faithfully endea-

endeavour to promote thy Glory, and the Good and Welfare of this Church and Nation.

Look with Pity and Compaſſion upon all thy Afflicted Servants: Be a Father to the Fatherleſs, and a Husband to the Widow; heal the Sick, ſupply the Wants of the Poor and Needy; and grant to all that are in Affliction, a patient Submiſſion to thy Bleſſed Will.

Bleſs all my Friends and Relations, eſpecially —— Reward all that have done me Good, and forgive all that have done or wiſh'd me Evil; and vouchſafe to every one of us, from the higheſt to the loweſt, whatever thy great Wiſdom knoweſt to be needful both for our Souls and Bodies.

And now, O moſt merciful Father, in an humble Senſe of thy great Goodneſs, I adore and praiſe thy glorious Name for all the Manifeſtations of thy Love and Kindneſs vouchſafed unto me.

I bleſs thee for my Being, for my Reaſon, and all the Endowments and Faculties of my Soul and Body; for my Health, Friends, Food, and Raiment, and all other Comforts and Conveniencies of my Life;

for

for thy continual Care, and watchful Providence over me through the whole Courſe of my Life; and particularly, for thy Preſervation the Day paſt.

Give me Grace, O Lord, I beſeech thee, to make a right Uſe and Improvement of all thy Bleſſings; and be thou graciouſly pleaſed to take me, and all that belong to me, this Night, under the Care and Protection of thy Fatherly Providence. Give thy holy Angels charge over us, that no Evil come near to hurt us; and grant us ſuch Refreſhments of Soul and Body, as may enable us chearfully to go through the Duties of that Station wherein thou haſt placed us; and when thou ſhalt be pleas'd to call us out of this World, O let us be found of the Number of thy faithful Servants, through the Merits of Chriſt Jeſus, our Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer; for whom my Soul does bleſs and praiſe thee, and in whoſe moſt holy Words I ſum up all our Wants, ſaying,

*Our Father,*

## *A Prayer for* Wedneſday *Morning*.

O Moſt gracious God! who art the Author of all the good Things that I enjoy; in thee I live, and move, and have my Being; and to thy good Providence I aſcribe it, that I am now in Health and Safety; that I have enjoyed the comfortable Refreſhments of the Night paſt, and that none of thoſe Evils which I have juſtly deſerved, have come nigh me, or my Dwelling; for theſe, O Lord, and for all thy other Mercies, I deſire to adore and bleſs thy Glorious Name, humbly beſeeching thee to accept this my Morning Sacrifice of Praiſe and Thankſgiving, in and through the Merits and Mediation of my dear Redeemer.

For his ſake, O Lord, I humbly beſeech thee, to pardon all my Sins; and grant that a due Senſe of thy Mercies may be ſo deeply impreſs'd upon my Mind, that I may love thee above all Things, and manifeſt the Sincerity of that Love, by a conſtant and habitual Care to do what is pleaſing in thy Sight.

O Lord! there is nothing that I deſire ſo much, as to be of the Number of thy faithful Servants; to this End vouchſafe me the Aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, to enable me to withſtand the Temptations of this wicked World, and with an undaunted Courage and Reſolution to bear up under all the Trials and Difficulties which I ſhall meet with in my Chriſtian Warfare.

Grant, O Lord, that I may never have any Fellowſhip with the unfruitful Works of Darkneſs, nor grieve thy bleſſed Spirit by any impure and ſinful Deſires; but as I have given up my ſelf to the Service and Obedience of my great Lord and Maſter Jeſus Chriſt; ſo teach me to walk in his Laws, to conform my ſelf to his Precepts, and to endeavour, as much as in me lies, to imitate his Example.

Let my Converſation be always ſuch as becometh the Goſpel; and grant that I may daily endeavour to mortifie my corrupt Inclinations; to cleanſe my ſelf from all Filthineſs of Fleſh and Spirit, and to bring every inordinate Deſire to the Obedience of thy Will.

Give

Give me a Heart truly honeſt and upright, and ſo ſtedfaſt and immoveable in the Ways of Truth and Juſtice, that no worldly Intereſt or Advantage, how promiſing or great ſoever, may be able to ſhake my Integrity.

In the Uſe of honeſt and lawful Means, give me Grace to depend upon thy Providence, and to reſt contented under all the Diſpenſations of thy infinite Wiſdom and Goodneſs. And though thou ſhould'ſt ſee fit to deprive me of any, or even all the Comforts of this Life; yet, O gracious Father, leave me not deſtitute of thoſe Things that accompany Salvation; nor deny me thy Favour, which is better than Life it ſelf: Whatever thou art pleas'd to deprive me of, yet take not from me, I beſeech thee, the Comforts of thy Holy Spirit; but in all the Troubles and Diſappointments of this World, in all the Calamities and Trials I ſhall meet with here, be thou my only Refuge and my Support, my Stay and my Truſt, my Saviour and mighty Deliverer. Stand by me in all Trials, ſuccour me in every Temptation, ſupport me in Diſcouragements, and adviſe me in all difficult Caſes: But eſpecially,

ally, O Lord, I moſt importunately beſeech thee, that when the Time of my Diſſolution draws nigh, and all Things here begin to fail me, thou would'ſt then vouchſafe to ſtrengthen and ſupport me, and at laſt receive me into thy bleſſed Kingdom; through the Merits and for the Sake of my Eternal Advocate and Mediator Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

Be thou pleas'd of thy great Goodneſs, O Lord, to continue to me thy Favour and Protection. Direct and guide me, ſanctifie and preſerve me. Let thy watchful Providence be my Guard and Defence. Keep me in thy Fear all the Day long, and grant that I may take nothing in Hand but what is agreeable to thy bleſſed Will. Into thy Hands I commend my Soul and Body, and all that are related to me, humbly beſeeching thee, to keep us from all Evil; to lead us into all Good; and to carry us ſafely through the Dangers and Temptations of this wicked World, to that Place of everlaſting Reſt and Peace, which thou haſt prepared for thy faithful Servants, through the Merits of thy beloved Son *Jeſus Chriſt* our Lord, who, when we pray, hath taught

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us thus to ſay, in whoſe Words I recommend the Wants of all Mankind together with my own.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Wedneſday *Noon, or any intermediate time of the Day.*

O Moſt Gracious God and Merciful Father! I beſeech thee, for the Sake of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt, to pardon and forgive all my Sins.

In Confidence of thy great Mercy and Goodneſs to all that are truly deſirous to love and ſerve thee, I humbly implore the Grace and Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, to enable me to become every Day better, and to reform whatever has been amiſs in the Temper and Diſpoſition of my Mind, or in any of the Actions of my Life: Grant me the Wiſdom and Underſtanding to know my Duty, and the Heart and Will to do it. Vouchſafe me the continual Preſence and Direction, the Aſſiſtance and Comforts of thy Holy Spirit, whereby I may be diſ-

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poſed and enabled to do thy Will with Delight and Chearfulneſs, and with Patience and Contentedneſs to ſubmit to it in all Things.

Endue me, O Lord, with a true Fear and Love of thee, and with a prudent Zeal for thy Glory. Encreaſe in me more and more the Graces of Charity and Meekneſs, of Juſtice and Fidelity. Give me Humility and Patience, and a Firmneſs of Spirit, to bear every Condition with Conſtancy and Equality of Mind.

Enable me, O Lord, to govern all my Appetites, and every inordinate Luſt and Paſſion, by Temperance and Purity, and Meekneſs of Wiſdom; ſetting thee always before me, that I may not ſin againſt thee. Create in me a clean Heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Purifie my Soul from all evil Thoughts and Inclinations, from all bad Intentions and Deſigns. Deliver me, O Lord, from Pride and Vanity, from immoderate Self-Love, and obſtinate Self-Will; and from all Malice, Envy, and Ill-Will towards my Neighbour.

O make me to love thee, as I ought, above all Things; and let the Intereſt

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of thy Honour and Glory, be ever dearer to me, than my own Will or Reputation, or any Temporal Advantage whatſoever.

Subdue in me the evil Spirit of Wrath and Revenge; and diſpoſe my Heart patiently to bear Reproaches and Wrongs, and to be ready not only to forgive, but to return Good for Evil.

Aſſiſt me, O Lord, more eſpecially, in the faithful and conſcientious Diſcharge of the Duties of that Station in which thou haſt placed me; *** [*make me a kind and affectionate Husband, a careful and loving Father, a prudent and diſcreet Maſter.*] And grant that I may employ all the Abilities and Opportunities which thou ſhalt give me, for thy Glory and the Good of thoſe committed to my Care.

*This is to be varied or omitted, as it ſuits every one's Condition.*

Confirm me, O God, in all my Holy Deſires and Reſolutions; and Oh do thou keep it for ever in the Purpoſe and Reſolution of my Heart, to love, and ſerve, and obey thee, through Jeſus Chriſt, our Bleſſed Lord, and only Saviour; in whoſe Words I recommend the Wants and Neceſſities of all Mankind together with my own.

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*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Wedneſday *Evening.*

O Moſt Glorious and Everliving God, who inhabiteſt Eternity, and dwelleſt in that Light which no mortal Eye can approach unto; I thy unworthy Servant beg leave to preſent my Prayers before thy Divine Majeſty.

O Lord! I confeſs, that notwithſtanding all thy gracious Dealings and Diſpenſations towards me, I have neither lov'd thee, ſerv'd thee, nor obey'd thee, as I ought to have done.

The Cares and Concerns of this Life are too apt to buſie and employ my Thoughts, and make me cold and remiſs in the great and important Work of my Salvation.

O my God! I lament and bewail the Corruption of my Nature, and my manifold Sins and Tranſgreſſions. Where ſhall I fly for Succour, but unto thee, who art a God of infinite Love and Pity. O pity my Weakneſſes, and forgive and waſh away all my Sins, in the Blood of that immaculate Lamb Chriſt Jeſus, that neither thoſe, which I have this Day committed, nor

any

any other the Follies of my Life paſt, may be ever had in Remembrance before thee. O Reſerve not my Sins to be puniſh'd in the Day of thy fierce Wrath and Diſpleaſure; but bury them all in the Depth of thy everlaſting Mercy, that they may never riſe up to my Confuſion here, nor my Condemnation hereafter. Look upon me, O Lord, as a reconciled Father in Chriſt Jeſus; ſpeak Peace unto my Conſcience, and ſay unto my Soul, I am the God of thy Salvation.

But, O Lord, I beg not only the Pardon of my Tranſgreſſions, but moſt earneſtly entreat thee (who haſt promiſed to give thy Holy Spirit to them that ask it) that thou would'ſt enable me to forſake every evil Way, and to walk before thee in Newneſs of Life. Let not Sin reign in my mortal Body, nor any ſinful Deſires take Poſſeſſion of my Heart; but by the powerful Efficacy of thy Grace, deſtroy in me all evil Habits and Diſpoſitions, and whatſoever is contrary to thy moſt Holy Will and Commandments.

Give me, O Lord, a [illegible] Conviction of the Shortneſs

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any

any other the Follies of my Life paſt, may be ever had in Remembrance before thee. O Reſerve not my Sins to be puniſh'd in the Day of thy fierce Wrath and Diſpleaſure; but bury them all in the Depth of thy everlaſting Mercy, that they may never riſe up to my Confuſion here, nor my Condemnation hereafter. Look upon me, O Lord, as a reconciled Father in Chriſt Jeſus; ſpeak Peace unto my Conſcience, and ſay unto my Soul, I am the God of thy Salvation.

But, O Lord, I beg not only the Pardon of my Tranſgreſſions, but moſt earneſtly entreat thee (who haſt promiſed to give thy Holy Spirit to them that ask it) that thou would'ſt enable me to forſake every evil Way, and to walk before thee in Newneſs of Life. Let not Sin reign in my mortal Body, nor any ſinful Deſires take Poſſeſſion of my Heart; but by the powerful Efficacy of thy Grace, deſtroy in me all evil Habits and irregular Diſpoſitions, and whatſoever oppoſes it ſelf to thy moſt Holy Will and Commandments.

Give me, O Lord, a lively Senſe and Conviction of the Shortneſs and Uncer-

tainty of all Things here below; that my Heart being weaned from the Love of this World, it may daily more and more aſpire after thoſe Joys which are at thy Right-hand for evermore.

Make me, O gracious God, a faithful and a wiſe Steward of all thoſe Talents thou haſt committed to my Truſt. Let me never apply thy Bleſſings to any ſinful or unworthy Purpoſes, nor abuſe thy Mercies by an ungodly Uſe of the leaſt of thy good Creatures; but give me Grace to improve them to thy Glory, the Good of my own Soul, and in the Comfort and Relief of my diſtreſſed Brethren; that being rich in good Works, and having laid up a Treaſure in Heaven, I may (when this earthly Tabernacle ſhall be diſſolved) have a Building of God, a Houſe not made with Hands, Eternal in the Heavens, thro' our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.

Extend thy Mercy, O God, to all Mankind; have pity upon all Jews, Turks, Infidels, and Hereticks, and bring them to the Light, and Knowledge, and Practice of thy Laws.

Bleſs thy Holy Catholick Church, and eſpecially that part of it which thou haſt

planted

planted in theſe Kingdoms, remove out of it all Errors and Corruptions, all Diviſions and Diſſentions; and let Love and Charity and Good-will be viſible in the Lives of all its Members.

Reform all Things amiſs in theſe Kingdoms. Root out from among us all Profaneneſs and Impiety; all Uncharitableneſs and Animoſities; that we turning from all our evil Ways unto thee, the Lord our God, thou may'ſt turn from thy Diſpleaſure againſt us, and delight over us to do us good; to build us up, and not to deſtroy us.

Bleſs and protect our Sovereign Lord the King, and make him an Inſtrument in thy Hands of great Good to this Church and Nation.

Look down with Pity and Compaſſion upon all thoſe, who are in Trouble, Sorrow, Need, Sickneſs, or any other Adverſity; Comfort and Support them under their Afflictions, and give them in thy due Time a happy Deliverance.

Send down thy Bleſſings, Spiritual and Temporal, upon all my [illegible] Relations, more particularly [illegible] Give us what thou ſeeſt moſt

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Send down thy Bleſſings, Spiritual and Temporal, upon all my Friends and Relations, more particularly upon ——— Give us what thou ſeeſt moſt profitable

for us. And as thou beſt knoweſt all our Wants, ſo be thou pleas'd to ſuit thy Graces and Bleſſings to the ſeveral Neceſſities of our Souls and Bodies.

To theſe my Prayers and Interceſſions, I deſire likewiſe, O moſt merciful God, to add my unfeigned Thanks and Praiſe to thy incomprehenſible Majeſty, for all the Mercies and Benefits which thou haſt ſo freely and undeſervedly conferred upon me.

I bleſs thee for my Creation, and Preſervation; for my Health, Strength, Peace, and Safety; for thy continual Care and watchful Providence over me ever ſince I was born; and for all the Comforts and Conveniencies I have hitherto received; and in particular, for the Mercies and Refreſhments of the Day paſt.

I confeſs, O Lord, my unworthineſs of thy Mercies; but in Confidence of thy infinite Goodneſs, I beg leave to commend my Soul and Body to thy Fatherly Care and good Providence, humbly beſeeching thee to take me, and all that belong to me, this Night, under thy Almighty Protection.

Refreſh

Refreſh our Bodies with quiet Reſt and Sleep, and our Souls with the Conſolations of thy Holy Spirit; and when thou ſhalt think fit to take us out of this World, give us Everlaſting Reſt and Peace in thy Eternal Kingdom, through the Merits, and for the Sake of our Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer, Jeſus Chriſt; who hath taught us when we pray, to ſay,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Thurſday *Morning*.

O Lord, the Creator and Governour of the World! Thou art a God of infinite Power, Wiſdom, and Goodneſs, and thy tender Mercies are over all thy Works; I thy unworthy Servant fall low on my Knees before thy Throne of Grace, to renew the Tribute of my humbleſt Praiſe and Adoration to thy Great and Glorious Majeſty.

Bleſſed be thy Name, O God, for ſending thy Son our Lord Jeſus Chriſt into the World, to die for the Redemption of Mankind

kind, and for all the Benefits and Advantages which I have received thereby. Bleſſed be thy Holy Name, that I was born of Chriſtian Parents, and early dedicated to thee by Baptiſm; and for all the Means and Opportunities which thou haſt given me of becoming wiſe unto Salvation; for the Aſſiſtances of thy Good Spirit, and for inclining me ſo early to love and fear Thee: I thank thee likewiſe, O Lord, for all the Temporal Bleſſings I have received; for that Meaſure of Health which I have enjoyed; for the many Friends and Relations thou haſt given me; and for that competent Maintenance and Proviſion thou haſt made for me. Particularly, O Lord, I bleſs thy Holy Name, that thou haſt protected me the Night paſt from the Powers of Darkneſs, and every evil Accident, and haſt now raiſed me up in Health and Safety to praiſe thy Goodneſs.

O Lord, raiſe me up alſo, I pray thee, to Newneſs of Life, and grant me ſuch a Senſe of thy Goodneſs, as may excite in my Heart a ſincere Love to thee, and a holy Care to pleaſe and obey thee in all Things.

Pardon,

Pardon, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, all my paſt Ingratitude, and undutiful Behaviour towards thee, and let me never forget the many and great Obligations thou haſt laid upon me to become thy faithful and obedient Servant.

I confeſs, O Lord! that I am not able of my ſelf to pleaſe thee, but ſince thou haſt promiſed to give thy Holy Spirit to them that ask it; with an humble Reliance on thy moſt gracious Promiſes, I beſeech thee to vouchſafe me his Divine Aſſiſtance, to enable me to do my Duty towards thee, and towards all Men. Endue me, O moſt gracious God, with a Spirit of true and fervent Devotion to thee my Creator and Redeemer; with an honeſt, upright, and charitable Heart, towards all my Neighbours; and with a contented, meek, and humble Mind in every Condition and State of Life, in which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to place me.

O Lord, convince me more and more of the Vanity and Emptineſs of all earthly Enjoyments; that my Heart being lifted up above the Pleaſures of this Life, it may ſurely there be fixed, where true Joys are to be found. Grant that I

may ſeek thy Kingdom and the Righteouſneſs thereof in the firſt Place, and prefer thy Favour, and the Teſtimony of a good Conſcience, before the greateſt Happineſs this World can promiſe me. Let neither Hopes nor Fears, neither Pleaſure nor Profit, be ever able to draw me from my Duty; but being ſtedfaſt and unmoveable, I may always abound in the Work of the Lord, knowing that my Labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.

And now, O Lord, I humbly pray thee to take me, and all that are near and dear unto me, this Day, under the Care and Protection of thy good Providence. We are ſafe ſo long as we are in thy Hands; O let us never caſt away our Confidence in thee, nor place it any where but in thee. Be with us in all Dangers and Temptations, and keep us from all Things that may hurt us; preſerve us more eſpecially from the Sin that does moſt eaſily betray and enſnare us. Give us ſuch a meaſure of Health and other Temporal Bleſſings, as thou ſeeſt beſt and moſt fitting for us; and grant us the Aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, that in our

ſeveral Stations and Employments, we may keep a Conſcience void of Offence both towards thee, and towards all Men, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; in whoſe moſt Holy Words, I commend both my own and the Wants and Neceſſities of all Mankind.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Thurſday *Noon, or any intermediate time of the Day.*

O Lord, the great Creator and Governour of all Things! I fall down before thee, in an humble Adoration of thy incomprehenſible Majeſty, acknowledging that I depend entirely upon thee; praiſing and magnifying thy moſt glorious Power, Wiſdom, and Goodneſs, which are every where conſpicuous; and rendring unto thee my moſt hearty Thanks, for all the Favours and Benefits which thou haſt ſo freely and undeſervedly conferr'd upon me: Thou art bountiful to the whole World: All thy Works praiſe thee, O Lord,

Lord, and we, the Children of Men, ought more particularly to bleſs thee, and ſpeak good of thy Name, for we have received ſingular Marks and Tokens of thy Favour; being made after thy own Image, and endued with reaſonable and immortal Spirits, that we may reflect on thee, the Author of our Being, and become like unto thee in Wiſdom, Holineſs, Goodneſs, and Truth; but above all, I deſire to remember that great Demonſtration of thy Love, in giving thy dear Son to live among us, to die for us, and thereby to give us (upon the Conditions of Faith and ſincere Obedience) an aſſured Hope of immortal Life.

O Lord, I love thee, and renew the Oblation which I have often made of my Soul and Body to thee; I wait upon thee ſtill for what thou ſeeſt good for both; I hope in thy everlaſting Mercy, humbly beſeeching thee to pardon all my forgetfulneſs of thee, and ingratitude to thee; and I moſt earneſtly implore the Grace of thy Holy Spirit, to preſerve in my Mind a powerful Senſe of thee, an ardent Love to thee, and a holy Care to pleaſe and obey thee in all Things.

Give

Give me the ſame Mind and Spirit which was in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord; the Spirit of Wiſdom and Underſtanding, and the Fear of thee; the Spirit of Meekneſs, Humility, Purity and Charity; and grant that I may do thy Will with the like Chearfulneſs, Zeal, Conſtancy, Patience, and Perſeverance, that he did.

Bleſſed be thy Name, O Lord, for all the Helps and Aſſiſtances of thy good Spirit, which thou haſt already bleſſed me withal: O vouchſafe ſtill to continue to me thy gracious Favour and Protection; and as thou haſt preſerved me hitherto this Day; ſo bleſs me the remaining Part of it: Keep me in Peace and Innocence, in Love to thee, and Charity to my Neighbour; and ſince in all my Ways I acknowledge thee, do thou direct my Paths, and teach me to manage all my Affairs with Prudence and Diſcretion. Thou art my Hope and my Confidence, my Satisfaction and my Peace, my Glory and my Joy; O be thou pleas'd to conduct me by thy good Spirit, through all the Buſineſs and Enjoyments, through all the Temptations and Troubles of this Life; and never leave me, nor forſake me; but

bring

bring me at laſt to that bleſſed Place, where our Lord Jeſus Chriſt liveth and reigneth with thee, in the Unity of the ſame Spirit, World without End. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Thurſday *Evening.*

O Eternal and infinitely Glorious God, the great Creator, gracious Preſerver, and wiſe Governour of the World; I thy unworthy Servant fall down before thee at this Time, to preſent my Prayers and Supplications before thy Throne of Grace.

I admire and adore the incomprehenſible Perfections of thy Nature, and gratefully acknowledge thy marvellous and undeſerved Goodneſs towards me and all thy Creatures: I have nothing, O Lord, but what I received from thee; thou freely gaveſt me my Being, and mad'ſt me in a Capacity to know, and ſerve, and enjoy thee for ever: And out of the ſame infinite Bounty and Goodneſs thou haſt continued to me the Being which thou at firſt

gaveſt

gaveſt me, and haſt delivered me from a Multitude of Evils, which might have juſtly befallen me, and beſtowed Mercies and Favours both upon my Soul and Body, more than I can number. O that I could ſay, I had made Returns unto thee in any meaſure ſuitable to the Benefits which I have received from thee: But alas! I muſt with Shame acknowledge that I have been guilty of great Ingratitude towards thee, the Fountain of all Good; I have been an unprofitable and unworthy Servant, and have neither lov'd thee, ſerv'd thee, nor obey'd thee, as I ought to have done.

O Lord! it is owing to thy infinite Mercy and Goodneſs, that I have now an Opportunity of humbling my ſelf before thee; O let thy Goodneſs and Forbearance, O Lord, lead me to a true and unfeigned Repentance of all my Sins; and for the Sake of thy beloved Son, in whom alone thou art well-pleaſed; ſpare me, O good Lord, ſpare me, and be not angry with me for ever; waſh away all my Sins in that Fountain which thou haſt opened for Sin and Uncleanneſs, that nothing may interpoſe between thy Mercy and [illegible]

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poor

poor Soul. Lay not to my Charge, O merciful God, the Sins which I have this Day committed; and not only pardon them, but give me Grace from henceforwards intirely to leave and forſake them, and to amend my Life according to thy holy Word.

Make me always mindful, that thou art every where preſent, and privy to my moſt ſecret Thoughts; that I may never dare to do any Thing but what is pleaſing in thy Sight. Poſſeſs me, O Lord, with a lively Senſe of the Frailty of my Life, the Certainty of a Judgment to come, the unſpeakable Glories of Heaven, and the moſt dreadful Torments of Hell, that I may in good earneſt ſet about the great Work of my Salvation, and never be ſo fooliſh, as to prefer the Pleaſures of Sin, which are but for a Seaſon, before that everlaſting Fulneſs of Joy, which is in thy Preſence for evermore; but that duly conſidering the vaſt Diſproportion there is betwixt this Life and my Eternal State, I may live as becomes the Goſpel of Chriſt, working out my Salvation with the greateſt Care and Circumſpection; that when the great and terrible Day of

the Lord ſhall come, I may be admitted to the Inheritance of the Saints in Light, through the Merits and for the Sake of my Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous.

O Lord! I pray not for my ſelf alone, but for the whole Race of Mankind, and in a more eſpecial manner for this Church and Nation to which I belong. Let the Virtue and Efficacy of Chriſt's Death and Paſſion be extended far and wide, and grant that true Religion and Virtue may every where flouriſh and abound.

Bleſs all Orders and Degrees of Men amongſt us, eſpecially thy Servant our Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, our gracious Queen *CAROLINE*, the Royal Iſſue, and the reſt of the Royal Family: Endue them with all thoſe Graces and Virtues, which may enable them to diſcharge their ſeveral Truſts in ſuch a manner as may promote thy Honour and Glory, and the Peace and Proſperity both of Church and State.

Hear the Prayers of the Sick and Needy, and of all that labour under any Trouble or Affliction; and of thy Fatherly Goodneſs, comfort and relieve them according to their Neceſſities.

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Hear the Prayers of the Sick and Needy, and of all that labour under any Trouble or Affliction; and of thy Fatherly Goodneſs, comfort and relieve them according to their Neceſſities.

I commend to thy particular Favour and Protection, my ——— and all my Relations and Friends; let thy Fear be ever before their Eyes; let thy Bleſſing always reſt upon them; and grant them all Things neceſſary for Life and Godlineſs.

Accept, O Lord, I humbly beſeech thee, the Evening Sacrifice of my unfeigned Praiſes, which I now offer up to thy Divine Majeſty, for thy great and manifold Mercies vouchſafed unto me; and more particularly for the Mercies of the Day paſt; for preſerving me in Health and Safety; for providing ſo plentifully for me, and continuing to me the Enjoyment of ſo many Comforts. And I moſt humbly beſeech thee to continue thy Mercy and Goodneſs towards me, and all that belong to me. Defend us this Night from all Dangers both of Soul and Body; grant us quiet and refreſhing Sleep; and if thou art pleaſed to add another Day to our Lives, give us Grace to employ it in ſuch a manner as may be well-pleaſing in thy Sight; through the Merits and for the Sake of thy beloved Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Friday *Morning*.

O Moſt Holy, moſt Merciful, and moſt Gracious Lord God; thou art the inexhauſtible Fountain of all Good, the Source and Spring of all our Comforts here, and the ſure and certain Foundation of all our Hopes hereafter: Look down from the Habitation of thy Holineſs, upon me, who humbly beg leave to renew my Praiſes to thy Divine Majeſty, in whom I live, and move, and have my Being.

O Lord! I acknowledge, that under thy Protection I have this Night ſlept ſecure, and by thy infinite Goodneſs it is that I am now in Health and Safety; Praiſed therefore be thy Name, O Lord; O let all that is within me praiſe thy Holy Name; as long as I live I will magnifie thee, O God, for thou art my Creator, my Preſerver, and my conſtant Benefactor.

Pardon, O moſt merciful Father, all the unworthy Returns I have made for the manifold Favours I have received from thee: and grant me for the Time to come ſuch a Senſe of thy infinite Good-

neſs

neſs and Mercy, that I may love thee with all my Heart, with all my Soul, and with all my Strength; that I may ſtudy to pleaſe thee in all Things, and be afraid of nothing ſo much as thy Diſpleaſure.

To this End, O Gracious Lord, make me truly ſenſible of the Vanity of this World; that I may not be carried away with the Force and Power of ſenſible Objects; nor brought under the Dominion of thoſe Luſts, which war againſt the Soul. Give me Grace ſo to uſe the World, as not to abuſe it; and grant, that neither the Cares of this Life, nor the Deceitfulneſs of Riches, may ever make me neglect the great Work thou haſt given me to do. Root out of my Heart all covetous Affections and Deſires, and let it be my great Care and Concern to provide for Eternity, and to lay up a Treaſure in Heaven, which faileth not.

Deliver me, O my God, from Pride and Vain-glory; from a fond Conceit of my ſelf, or a mean Opinion of others; from a cenſorious and uncharitable Spirit; from an envious and malicious Temper; and from all thoſe ſinful and corrupt Affecti-

Affections that are ſo hateful in thy Sight; and O be thou pleaſed to endue me with that Wiſdom, which is from above; which is firſt pure, and then peaceable; with that Meekneſs and Humility, which is in thy Sight of ſo great Price; and with all thoſe Holy and Chriſtian Diſpoſitions that thou loveſt and delighteſt in.

Make me always mindful of my own Frailty, of the Shortneſs and Uncertainty of this Life, and of the Eternity of the next. Make me careful ſo to live, as I ſhall wiſh I had done when I come to die: O let not Sickneſs or Death ever ſurprize me unawares, or find me in a State unprovided; but grant that I may finiſh the great Work of my Salvation, before the Night comes, when no Man can work; that ſo having laid up a good Foundation of Hope and Comfort againſt the Day of Trouble and Sickneſs, I may, whenever thou ſhalt be pleaſed to call me hence, chearfully reſign up my Soul into thy Hands; and, O! do thou vouchſafe to receive it to thy Mercy, through the Merits and for the Sake of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous.

Be with me, O Lord, this Day; Let thy Bleſſing accompany all my honeſt Labours and Endeavours; and grant, that I may take nothing in Hand, but what is agreeable to thy bleſſed Will. To thee I humbly beg leave to commend my Soul and Body, and all that ſtand in any Relation to me; beſeeching thee, of thy great Goodneſs, to take us under thy Protection, to defend us from all Evil, and to lead us into all Good. Grant, that whilſt we are engag'd about Things Temporal, we may not forget the Things that are Eternal; nor be unmindful of that great Account which we muſt one Day give. O Lord! leave us not to our ſelves, but guard us from thoſe Snares and Temptations that every where ſurround us. Conduct us by thy good Spirit, through the Affairs and Buſineſs of this Life, that we may at laſt arrive at that Place of everlaſting Reſt and Peace, which thou haſt prepared for thoſe, who truly and ſincerely love and fear thee, through the Merits and Intercession of thy beloved Son [illegible] our Lord; in whoſe [illegible] Words, I ſum up

up my own, and the Wants of all Mankind, ſaying,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Friday *Noon, or any intermediate Time of the Day.*



Almighty God, who haſt promiſed to hear the Petitions of them that ask in thy Son's Name; I beſeech thee mercifully to incline thine Ears to me, that am now come before thee, to offer up my Prayers at the Throne of Grace, in the Name, and through the Mediation of thy beloved Son; for his Sake, O Lord, I humbly beſeech thee, to look upon me with the Tenderneſs and Bowels of a compaſſionate Father: And ſince thou haſt [illegible] me to call thee [illegible] make [illegible] to render unto thee the [illegible] O Fat-e of a Child.

Honou-e me a holy Diſd[illegible] all Ages [illegible]aſures, Honours, an[illegible]; and ſo raiſe my [illegible]

Be with me, O Lord, this Day; Let thy Bleſſing accompany all my honeſt Labours and Endeavours; and grant, that I may take nothing in Hand, but what is agreeable to thy bleſſed Will. To thee I humbly beg leave to commend my Soul and Body, and all that ſtand in any Relation to me; beſeeching thee, of thy great Goodneſs, to take us under thy Protection, to defend us from all Evil, and to lead us into all Good. Grant, that whilſt we are engag'd about Things Temporal, we may not forget the Things that are Eternal; nor be unmindful of that great Account which we muſt one Day give. O Lord! leave us not to our ſelves, but guard us from thoſe Snares and Temptations that every where ſurround us. Conduct us by thy good Spirit, through the Affairs and Buſineſs of this Life, that we may at laſt arrive at that Place of everlaſting Reſt and Peace, which thou haſt prepared for thoſe, who truly and ſincerely love and fear thee, through the Merits and Interceſſion of thy beloved Son, Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; in whoſe moſt comprehenſive Words, I ſum up

up my own, and the Wants of all Mankind, ſaying,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Friday *Noon, or any intermediate Time of the Day.*



Almighty God, who haſt promiſed to hear the Petitions of them that ask in thy Son's Name; I beſeech thee mercifully to incline thine Ears to me, that am now come before thee, to offer up my Prayers at the Throne of Grace, in the Name, and through the Mediation of thy beloved Son; for his Sake, O Lord, I humbly beſeech thee, to look upon me with the Tenderneſs and Bowels of a compaſſionate Father: And ſince thou haſt taught me to call thee Father, O make me to render unto thee the Love and Obedience of a Child.

Honour me a holy Diſdain of the deceitful Pleaſures, Honours, and Riches of this Life; and ſo raiſe my Mind above

Things

Things of this Life, that I may always have my Converſation in Heaven, from whence I look for my Saviour, the Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

Strike ſuch an Awe into my Heart, that I may humbly reverence thy Name, which is great, wonderful, and holy, and fear nothing ſo much as thy Diſpleaſure: And O do thou eſtabliſh thy Throne, and rule for ever in my Soul; and by the mighty Power of thy Grace ſubdue in me all thoſe rebellious and corrupt Affections that exalt themſelves againſt thee; that being a faithful Subject of thy Kingdom of Grace here, I may not fail to attain thy Kingdom of Glory hereafter.

Enable me, O Lord, by thy Grace, chearfully to ſubmit to thy Will in all thy Diſpenſations, and readily to perform all thy Commands. Give me that heavenly Zeal to thy Service, wherewith the bleſſed Angels of thy Preſence are inſpired; that I may never be weary of Well-doing, n ſlacken my Endeavours after the Att ment of everlaſting Life; but obeying with the like Fervour and Alacrity they do, I may be joined with them t Eternal Praiſes to God, and to the for ever.

O Lord, vouchſafe me that continual Supply of thy Grace and Holy Spirit, which may ſuſtain and nouriſh my Soul unto Life Eternal; and be thou pleaſed alſo to provide for my Body, whatever in thy great Wiſdom thou ſeeſt to be fitting for me.

O Lord! I confeſs I have, by my Sins, render'd my ſelf unworthy of the daily Bread thou feedeſt me withal; but, O let thy tender Mercies abound towards me, in the Forgiveneſs of all my Sins; and ſince I have much to be forgiven my ſelf, make me always ready to forgive others likewiſe, and to endeavour, as much as is poſſible, to be merciful, even as thou my Father in Heaven art merciful.

But becauſe the Frailty of Man without thee cannot but fall, O do thou ſtrengthen me againſt the many Temptations which daily aſſault me: Leave me not under the Power and Dominion of Sin, but ſave me, and deliver me for thy Mercies Sake in Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; To whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all Glory, Honour, Power, and Dominion, throughout all Ages. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Friday *Evening.*

MOST Great, moſt Holy, and moſt Glorious Lord God! thou haſt created the Heavens and the Earth, and all Things that are therein; thou upholdeſt them all by the Power of thy Word, and the Hoſt of Heaven praiſeth thee: What am I, that I ſhould preſume to ſpeak unto thee, or to lift up my Eyes to that Place of Purity where thou dwelleſt.

O Lord! thou hateſt Iniquity with a perfect Hatred, yet I am aſſured, that thou delighteſt in the Ways of Mercy; that thou art a tender Lover of Souls; and not only permitteſt, but inviteſt us, miſerable Creatures, to come unto thee. With humble Confidence then, O Lord, I lift up my Soul unto thee, beſeeching thee, in much Mercy, to look upon me, and to eaſe me of the Burthen of my corrupt and ſinful Inclinations: O caſt me not away from thy Preſence; but for the Sake of my dear Redeemer receive me graciouſly to thy Mercy; and let the Merit of his bitter Death and Paſſion attone for all the

Follies

Follies and Miſcarriages of my Life paſt. Forgive, I meekly beſeech thee, whatever I have done amiſs this Day, and all my Life paſt, either againſt thee, my Neighbour, or my ſelf; O cleanſe me from all my ſecret and unknown Tranſgreſſions: And, O merciful Father, grant that I may ſeriouſly conſider and reflect upon the Foulneſs and Deformity of Sin; and what dreadful Threatnings thou haſt denounc'd againſt it; that I may become a true and ſincere Mourner for my paſt Sins; and, as far as is poſſible, redeem my miſpent Time, by employing the Remainder of my Days in thy Service and to thy Glory. O make me wiſe unto Salvation, and give me that Hatred and Abhorrence of Sin and Iniquity, that I may abſtain from every kind and ſort of Evil.

Give me, O Lord, a new Heart, new Affections, and new Deſires; that I may love thee with more Sincerity, and ſerve thee with greater Faithfulneſs than I have ever yet done. Convince me of the Vanity and Uncertainty of all Things here below; and grant that I may make thee my only Joy and my Delight, my Stay and my Truſt, my Guide and my Counſellor; and

Things of this Life, that I may always have my Converſation in Heaven, from whence I look for my Saviour, the Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

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## *A Prayer for* Friday *Evening.*

MOST Great, moſt Holy, and moſt Glorious Lord God! thou haſt created the Heavens and the Earth, and all Things that are therein; thou upholdeſt them all by the Power of thy Word, and the Hoſt of Heaven praiſeth thee: What am I, that I ſhould preſume to ſpeak unto thee, or to lift up my Eyes to that Place of Purity where thou dwelleſt.

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Give me, O Lord, a new Heart, new Affections, and new Deſires; that I may love thee with more Sincerity, and ſerve thee with greater Faithfulneſs than I have ever yet done. Convince me of the Vanity and Uncertainty of all Things here below, and grant that I may make thee my only Joy and my Delight, my Stay and my Truſt, my Guide and my Counſellor; and

be ſo delighted with the Ways of thy Commandments, that one Day in thy Service may be dearer to me than a Thouſand ſpent in Vanity and Folly.

Teach me, O Lord, ſo to number my Days, that I may apply my Heart unto true Wiſdom; and grant that in the Days of Health and Proſperity I may conſider my latter End, and remember and provide for that great Account which I muſt one Day give before the Judgment-Seat of Chriſt; that when the Hour of my Departure ſhall come, I may meet Death without Fear and Amazement; and with a well-grounded Hope of thy Mercy and Goodneſs, may chearfully reſign up my Soul into thy Hands; and may be willing, and even deſirous to leave this World, when thou, my God, in thy great Wiſdom, ſhall ſee it fitting.

O Lord! let me never be ſeparated from thee; but grant that I may be of the Number of thy faithful and obedient Servants, who are united to thee by Grace and good Works in this Life, and will hereafter live with thee in endleſs Bliſs and Happineſs, through the Merits, and for the

the Sake of thy beloved Son Jeſus Chriſt, our Lord and only Saviour.

O Lord, to thy merciful Providence, I commend the Wants and Neceſſities of all Mankind; cauſe the Light of thy glorious Goſpel to ſhine in all the dark Corners of the Earth. In a more eſpecial Manner, I pray for the Good and Welfare of this Church and Nation to which I belong, beſeeching thee to pardon all our Sins, to turn away thy Diſpleaſure from us, and to make us a peculiar People zealous of good Works.

Protect and defend our Sovereign Lord the King, and grant that under him we may lead quiet and peaceable Lives in all Godlineſs and Honeſty.

Bleſs the Work of Faith, and Labour of Love of all thoſe, who zealouſly endeavour to ſtop the Torrent of Vice, and to promote the Intereſt of Virtue and true Religion among us.

Hear the Cry of the Poor and Needy, give Eaſe to thoſe that [illegible] by Affliction of Mind or Body; lay not more upon them than [illegible] them to bear.

I pray thee, in a more eſpecial manner, to be gracious to all my Friends and Relations, and more particularly to—— O Lord! Thou art thoroughly acquainted with all our Wants, O vouchſafe to give us what thou ſeeſt beſt and moſt fitting both for our Souls and Bodies.

Accept, O merciful Father, of my unfeigned Praiſes for all thy Bleſſings Spiritual and Temporal; my Health and Safety, and all the Comforts of my Life, proceed from thy Bounty and Goodneſs: To thee therefore, I aſcribe all poſſible Praiſe and Thankſgiving, humbly beſeeching thee to grant me the Continuance of thy Mercy and Goodneſs. Take me, and —— and all that belong to me, this Night, under the Care and Protection of thy good Providence. Preſerve us from all Perils and Dangers, and all apprehenſion or dread of any. Give us ſuch refreſhing Reſt and Sleep, as may fit us for the Duties of the Day following; and if thou art pleas'd to add another Day to our Lives, grant that we make a right Uſe and Improvement of it, to thy Glory, and the Benefit of our immortal Souls, thro' Jeſus

Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, who, in Compaſſion to our Infirmities, hath taught us thus to pray,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Saturday *Morning*.

O Moſt Bleſſed and moſt Glorious Lord God, who art of infinite Goodneſs and Mercy! I thy Creature whom thou haſt made, and to this Moment haſt preſerved, do now preſent my ſelf before thee, to offer up the Morning Sacrifice of my unfeigned Praiſes and Thankſgivings; thy Mercies are renewed to me every Morning, and thy Goodneſs follows me all the Day long; thou viſiteſt me in the Night Seaſon, and every Moment of my Life is a new Inſtance of thy Mercy.

It is by thy Goodneſs, O Lord, that I have this Night ſlept ſecure, and am now raiſed up in Health and Safety. Praiſed therefore be thy Name, O God, for of thee only cometh my Salvation;

the God of my Health, my Saviour, and mighty Deliverer; as long as I live I will magnifie thee, O Lord, for a joyful and pleaſant Thing it is to be thankful. O give me a Heart always tuned to thy Praiſes, which is my Happineſs as well as my Duty.

Imprint on my Mind ſuch a deep Senſe of thy Mercies, that I may never provoke thee to withdraw thy Favours from me. Let not the Bleſſings thou beſtoweſt on me, make me in Love with this World: Let neither Covetouſneſs nor Ambition; neither Pride nor Vanity; neither a Contempt of others, nor a fond Conceit of my ſelf, be the Effects of thy Loving-kindneſs towards me; but endue me with ſuch an humble and contented Mind, ſuch a meek and reſigned Spirit, ſuch a quiet and peaceable Temper and Behaviour, as becomes a Creature and a Sinner; O let the Conſideration of my Unworthineſs ſuppreſs in me all proud and aſpiring Thoughts, and all covetous and ambitious Deſires; that being meek and lowly in my own Eyes, I may find Reſt unto my Soul, and be filled with that Grace, which thou haſt promiſed to the Humble.

Fit

Fit and prepare me, O Lord, for every Condition and Change, but eſpecially for my great and laſt Change. Strengthen my Faith in the Time of Sickneſs and Trial, and forſake me not when my Strength faileth me. Let thy merciful Ears, O Lord, be then open to my Prayers; and ſpare me, O Lord moſt Holy, O God moſt Mighty, O Holy and merciful Saviour, thou moſt worthy Judge Eternal; ſuffer me not at my laſt Hour, through any Pains of Body, or Weakneſs of Mind, to let go my Dependence upon thee.

O let not the cruel Enemy of Souls affrighten me with his Terrors; but give thy Holy Angels charge over me; and let the Conſolations of thy Holy Spirit fortifie my Mind, and diſſipate my Fears, and be a reviving Cordial to my Soul at that laſt and momentous Period of my Life.

O Lord, leave me not to my ſelf in that Time of Diſtreſs, when I ſhall ſtand in ſo much need of thee. Give me an unfeigned Repentance of all my Sins, great Love to thee, and Charity to my [illegible]bour, an entire Submiſſion to thy [illegible] Will, and (if thou ſeeſt fitting) ſo[illegible] Aſſurance of my Salvation. [illegible] thou in

thy great Wiſdom, ſhall not ſee fitting to vouchſafe me ſo great a Mercy, yet, O gracious Father, let me not fail in the great Day of Judgment, to hear that bleſſed Sentence pronounc'd unto me, *Well done thou good and faithful Servant, enter thou into thy Maſter's Joy.* Grant this, O moſt Gracious God, for thy Mercies ſake in Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

Be with me, O Lord, this Day, in my going out and coming in; preſerve me from the Dangers of Evil-Company; from the Deceitfulneſs of my own Heart; and defend me more eſpecially from thoſe Sins that are moſt apt to betray and enſnare me. Let thy Bleſſing accompany all my honeſt Labours and Endeavours, and vouchſafe me ſuch a Meaſure of Health, and other temporal Mercies, as thou ſeeſt beſt and moſt fitting for me. I deſire, O Lord, to leave my ſelf, and all my Affairs, in thy Hands, humbly beſeeching thee to take me, and all that belong to me, under the Care and Protection of thy good Providence, and ſo to bleſs, direct, and guide us in this Life, that we may at laſt obtain that greateſt of all Bleſſings, the Eternal Salvation of our immortal Souls, through the

Merits,

Merits, and for the Sake of thy dear Son, and our alone Saviour, *Jeſus Chriſt* the Righteous; in the full Extent of whoſe Words, I deſire to be heard for my ſelf and all Mankind;

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer for* Saturday *Noon, or any intermediate Time of the Day.*

I Adore thee, O thou infinitely great and good God, Maker and Lord of Heaven and Earth; Worthy art thou to receive all Honour and Power, for thou haſt created all Things, and for thy Pleaſure they are and were created.

Send down thy Holy Spirit, O moſt merciful Father, upon me thy Servant; and ſo fill me with thy heavenly Grace and Benediction, that I may become a living Temple, ſanctified and devoted to thy Honour and Service, and ſuch wherein thou may'ſt delight to dwell, and make the Place of thy Reſt and Abode both now and for ever.

And to this End, O Lord, give me Grace ſeriouſly to conſider, that thou art a God greatly to be feared, for thy Power and Juſtice; greatly to be beloved, for thy infinite Perfection and Goodneſs; and greatly to be praiſed, for thy liberal Bounty and Loving-kindneſs: That thou art both the Author and the End of my Being; my true and only Good; the Cauſe of all my Joy and Happineſs; and the great Centre and Stay of thy whole Creation.

Give me Grace alſo ſeriouſly to conſider what I my ſelf am; that I am a Creature, a poor, empty, weak, and imperfect Being; that I have nothing but what I receive from thee; that I can do nothing but what I do by thee; nor know any thing but in thee, and thy Light; that in thee I have my Life, my Motion, my Being, my Happineſs, and my All.

Grant, O Lord, that I may alſo ſeriouſly conſider, that I am not only a Creature, but a ſinful one; a Creature acting againſt the End of his Creation, againſt the Laws of his Creator, againſt the Dignity of his Nature, and againſt his true and beſt Intereſt both here and hereafter: That I

have

have not loved thee as I ought, with my whole Heart, Soul, and Strength; nor as I might, according to the Meaſures of thy Grace, and the Abilities which thou haſt given me; nor indeed, as I have loved this World, and the Vanities of it; having been a Lover of Pleaſure more than a Lover of God.

And laſtly, O Lord, give me Grace ſeriouſly to conſider what I ought to be, both towards Thee, my Neighbour, and my Self; that I ought to be Holy, Juſt, Charitable, and Temperate; that I ought not to live careleſly and at random, as thoſe that have no Senſe of thee, nor of their Duty, and who believe neither Heaven nor Hell; but as one who now lives in thy Preſence, and muſt hereafter give thee an Account, and be either Eternally happy, or Eternally miſerable, according as I demean my Self in this ſhort Time of Trial; and that therefore denying all Ungodlineſs and worldly Luſts, I ought to live Godly, Righteouſly, and Soberly in this preſent World; looking for that bleſſed Hope, and the glorious Appearing of the Great God, and of our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.

Fix, O Lord, theſe Conſiderations in my Mind, and let them ſink ſo deep into my Heart, that they may bring forth in me the Fruits of good Living; that ſo my Spirit may be pure and right within me, my Life may be holy, my Death comfortable, my Reſurrection joyful, and my Eternal State happy and glorious with thee, my God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Saturday *Evening.*

O Eternal Being! Father, Son, and Holy Ghoſt, one God Bleſſed for evermore; I thy unworServant adore thy glorious Majeſty, acknowledging my Dependence upon thee, and that all I have proceeds from thy infinite Bounty and Goodneſs.

Thou haſt ſhewn thy ſelf a moſt kind and indulgent Father; but alas! I have been an undutiful and diſobedient Child, and have made very ungrateful Returns for thoſe innumerable Mercies and Favours which thou haſt beſtowed upon me.

O Lord, my Conſcience accuſes me of having

having done many Things contrary to thy bleſſed Will; of having acted fooliſhly and wickedly, contrary to my beſt and greateſt Intereſt.

I am ſenſible, O Lord, that the greateſt Concernments of this World are as nothing, when compar'd with Eternity; and yet, how apt am I to grow careleſs and remiſs in the great and important Work of my Salvation, and to ſuffer my Affections to be carried away after the Things of this Life.

O Lord, the Wages, and Deſert, and Puniſhment of Sin, is Death; but thou art infinite in Mercy, and willeſt not the Death of a Sinner; remember then, I beſeech thee, thy tender Mercies; and for the Sake and Merits of my dear Redeemer, have Mercy upon me, and be not angry with me for ever. Accept of that full, perfect, and ſufficient Sacrifice, which thy beloved Son offered up upon the Croſs; and through the Merit of his bitter Death and Paſſion, pardon all my Sins, &c. particularly thoſe which I have this Day committed. O Lord, give me an Intereſt in the Blood of that immaculate Lamb Jeſus Chriſt; and grant, that I may never ren-

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der thoſe Sufferings which he underwent for Sinners, ineffectual to the Salvation of my Soul.

Give me Grace, ſeriouſly to conſider that it is my indiſpenſable Duty to forſake every evil Way. Poſſeſs my Soul with juſt and lively Apprehenſions of the infinite Diſproportion there is between this World and the next; that I may make a right Uſe and Improvement of all thoſe gracious Opportunities which thou art pleaſed to give me, of working out my Salvation, and ſecuring an Inheritance in that Kingdom, which is to laſt for ever.

Let no Temptations or Allurements divert me from ſecuring the Intereſt of my precious Soul; whatever elſe I leave undone, let *that* be my great Care and Concern, the firſt and laſt of all my Thoughts, and the chief Buſineſs and Employment of my whole Life.

O Lord! ſuffer not the Affairs and Buſineſs which I am engag'd in, to draw my Affections from Heaven and heavenly Things; but grant, that I may ſo paſs through things Temporal, as not to loſe the Things that are Eternal; and that in all the Concernments of this Life, I may govern

govern my ſelf by the Rules of Temperance and Sobriety, Juſtice and Honeſty, Prudence and Moderation, and with an entire Truſt and Dependence on thy Fatherly Care and good Providence; that having always before my Eyes that great Account which I muſt one Day give, I may never dare to do any thing that may diſhonour thy Name; nor be ſo wretchedly fooliſh, as to purchaſe any Happineſs in this World at the Expence of thy Favour: But that making thy Laws the Rule of all my Actions, I may approve my ſelf to thee, as becometh thy Servant; by being zealous and devout in thy Service; kind and charitable towards my Neighbour; by being meek and patient, quiet and peaceable, humble and inoffenſive towards all Men; and, as far as in me lies, uſeful and beneficial to the World; that ſo glorifying thee here upon Earth, I may at my Departure hence, enter into the Joy of my Lord, and be for ever glorified in thy heavenly Kingdom, thro' Jeſus Chriſt, my only Saviour and Redeemer.

Be gracious, O moſt merciful God, to

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the whole Race of Mankind, Pity the deplorable State of thoſe that know thee not, and have never heard of thy Name. Reform the Wicked and Impenitent, and let all that name the Name of Chriſt depart from Iniquity.

Bleſs our Sovereign Lord the KING, and grant that under him we may lead quiet and peaceable Lives in all Godlineſs and Honeſty.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all that are in any Affliction or Diſtreſs. Relieve and Comfort thoſe that ſuffer for the Teſtimony of a good Conſcience, or that labour under the Torments of a wounded Spirit. Let the ſorrowful Sighing of the Afflicted come before thee, and deliver them in thy good Time out of all their Troubles.

Let every one of my Friends and Relations, O God, be of the Number of thoſe whom thou loveſt and delighteſt in. Defend them from the Evils and Temptations of this World, and grant them whatever thou ſeeſt needful both for their Souls and Bodies.

To theſe my Prayers and Interceſſions, I deſire to add my unfeigned Praiſes for all thy Bleſſings, Spiritual and Temporal.

I bleſs thee more particularly for the Mercies of the Day paſt; for preſerving me in Health and Safety; and delivering me from the Evils which I have moſt juſtly deſerved.

Give me Grace to make a right Uſe and Improvement of all thy Mercies; and vouchſafe, O Lord, to continue to me thy gracious Favour and Protection. Be thou pleas'd of thy great Goodneſs to take me, (*and my dear Wife and Children*) and all that belong to me, this Night, under the Care of thy good Providence. Defend us from all Perils and Dangers; and after the comfortable Refreſhments of Reſt and Sleep, raiſe us up in Health and Safety, with Hearts full of Love to thee, and Zeal to thy Service, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, in the fulleſt Senſe of whoſe Words I pray to be heard.

*Our Father*, &c.



# PRAYERS
FOR
# Young Perſons
AND
# SERVANTS.

## *A Prayer for a Child, to be uſed Morning and Evening.*

ALmighty God, who madeſt me, and haſt preſerved me to this Hour; I praiſe and glorify thy Holy Name for all thy Mercies: O look graciouſly upon me, and bleſs me; forgive whatever I have done

done amiſs, and give me Grace to remember and put in Practice my Baptiſmal Vow, by renouncing the Devil and all his Works. Incline my Heart to that which is Good, and create in me an utter Diſlike of all Evil. Put thy Fear and thy Love in my Soul, that I may ſerve thee, and worſhip thee, and keep thy Commandments.

Make me dutiful to [my Father and Mother;] obedient to my Teachers; humble and reverent to all my Betters; meek and courteous to all People; and enable me to do to others, as I would have them do to me.

Preſerve me from bearing Malice or Hatred in my Heart, from Lying and Stealing, Slandering, and Evil-ſpeaking, and all evil Thoughts, Words and Actions. Guide me by thy Holy Spirit, that I may live to thy Glory, and when I die, may attain everlaſting Life.

Lord, bleſs all my Relations and Friends, and ſave and defend them and me from all Dangers this Day [*or* Night] and evermore, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen*

## *A Morning Prayer for a young Perſon.*

O Eternal God and heavenly Father, Thou art the kind Author of my Being; be thou the gracious Guide of my Life: My Age is ſimple and unexperienced, O be thou pleaſed to inſpire me with true Wiſdom from above, that it may guide and direct me in all my Ways. I am come into a World full of Snares and Temptations, O do thou fill me with the Knowledge and Love of thy Truth, that it may keep me from the Ways that lead to Deſtruction.

I render thee unfeigned Thanks for all the Bleſſings I daily receive from thee, and for thy particular Preſervation and Refreſhment of me this Night paſt.

O Lord, have thou Mercy upon me, and forgive me all my Sins; and give me Grace to flee all youthful Luſts, and to remember thee my Creator in the Days of my Youth.

O poſſeſs my Heart with the Fear of thee,

thee, and a Dependence upon thee. Let me always walk as in thy Preſence, conſidering I muſt one Day die (I know not how ſoon) and render an Account of all the Actions of my Life. Poſſeſs alſo my Heart, O my God, with that natural Tenderneſs for my Parents, and thoſe that have the Care of me, and with that Chriſtian Senſe of my Duty towards them, that my Language may be reſpectful, my Actions dutiful, and my whole Behaviour ſuch that I may not increaſe the Burden and Care of their Life, but prove a Comfort and Bleſſing to them.

Bleſs me, O Lord, in my Learning, and deliver me from Sloth and Idleneſs, and ill Company, and from all Dangers both of Body and Soul; and help me daily to increaſe in Knowledge, and Wiſdom, and all Virtue.

I commend to thy Divine Providence, [*my Father and Mother, my Brethren and Siſters*] all my Friends and Relations, and all this Family, and all Mankind: Vouchſafe us, O gracious God, all thoſe Graces and Bleſſings which thou knoweſt to be moſt needful for me.

Unto

Unto thee, O my God, do I dedicate my Soul and Body, beſeeching thee to take them into thy Care and Protection, that they may be always employed in thy Service, and to thy Glory; that having ſerved thee faithfully in this Life, I may at laſt obtain Life everlaſting, through the Merits and Mediation of my Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; in whoſe holy Name and Words, I ſum up my own, and the Wants of all Mankind.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *An Evening Prayer for a young Perſon.*

O Almighty God, and merciful Father, who willingly heareſt the Prayers of all thoſe that call upon thee faithfully; I humbly beſeech thee to pardon whatſoever thou haſt ſeen amiſs in me this Day, in my Thoughts, Words, or Actions, [*Here mention Particulars.*] Aſſiſt me, O God, in making it my conſtant Endeavour to reſiſt and

and conquer every evil Inclination within me, and every Temptation from without

Help me daily to increaſe in the Knowledge and Love of thee my God, and of my Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.

Shew me the Way in which I ſhould walk, whilſt I am young; and grant I may never depart from it.

Bleſs to me, I pray thee, whatſoever good Inſtructions have at any Time been given me; help me carefully to remember them, and ſeriouſly to practiſe them; that I may be ever growing in Knowledge, in Wiſdom, and in Goodneſs.

Bleſs, and defend, our moſt Gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, our Gracious Queen *CAROLINE*, the Royal Iſſue, and the reſt of the Royal Family; and all Orders of Men among us, from the higheſt to the loweſt: Lord, give them all Grace in their ſeveral Stations, to be inſtrumental to thy Glory, and the Publick Good.

Accept, O Lord, of my humbleſt Praiſe and Thankſgiving for all the Goodneſs thou haſt this Day, or at any Time, ſhewed me; for all the Helps of preventing or reſtraining Grace thou haſt vouchſafed me; for whatever I have done, which is in any Mea-

ſure acceptable to thee; for whatever Progreſs I have made in my Learning; for thy Preſervation of me from all the Miſeries and Dangers which frail Mortality is every Moment expoſed to; particularly, for —— [*Here mention any particular Mercy.*]

I humbly commit my Soul and Body to thy Care this Night, begging thy gracious Protection and Bleſſing.

And all theſe Mercies and Bleſſings which I ask for my ſelf, I heartily deſire for all my Relations and Friends, and for all Mankind. Let it pleaſe thee to guide us all in this preſent Life, and to conduct us ſafe to thy heavenly Kingdom, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord and Saviour; in whoſe moſt Holy Name and Words, I conclude theſe my imperfect Prayers.

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Morning Prayer for a Servant.*

O Lord my God, the great Creator and Preſerver of all Mankind; I bleſs and praiſe thy Holy Name for all thy Mercies to my Soul and Body: Thou haſt given me another Day, O give me Grace to ſpend it to thy Honour and Glory: Enable me to work in it the Work for which thou haſt ſent me into the World, before the Night of Death cometh, wherein I cannot work; that I may not increaſe the Number of my Tranſgreſſions, by running heedleſly or knowingly into the Commiſſion of any Sin.

O God, thou Witneſs of all my Actions, and Judge of all my Thoughts and Affections; what would become of me, if thou ſhould'ſt enter into ſtrict Judgment with me! How ſhould I ſtand before thy Tribunal, covered with the Guilt and Shame of my Sins! Lord, I repent, increaſe thou my Repentance; I repent of —— [*Here mention thoſe Sins which moſt burden thy Conſcience.*] O be thou reconciled unto me, and pardon me, for the Sake of Jeſus

Chriſt; and not only pardon my Sins, but deliver me from the Power and Dominion of them.

I am conſcious to my ſelf of great Weakneſs and Frailty; O do thou confirm and ſtrengthen me; create in me a clean Heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me: Give me a true Faith, and inflame my Heart with a holy Love; that I may delight in thy Commandments; that I may walk before thee in Uprightneſs and Fear, in Faithfulneſs and Honeſty; conſtantly and chearfully depending upon thee; and doing the Duty of my Place, not with Eye-Service, but with ſingleneſs of Heart, as knowing that I ſhall be accountable to thee at the laſt Day, as well for thoſe Duties which I owe my Maſter and Miſtreſs, as for thoſe which are more immediately to be paid to Thee.

O Lord, I beſeech thee, keep me from all opprobrious and reproachful Language; from all Lying and Slandering; and from all unjuſt and deceitful Actions. Make me always thankful, humble, and contented; neither withholding from thee the Praiſe due to thy infinite Bounty and Mercy; nor from Man the Thanks due to him, for any

any Act of Kindneſs or Charity towards me. Help me, O my God, ſo to walk before thee, that my Soul may enjoy a true Liberty; that my Life may be full of Comfort, my Death of Peace; and that I may obtain eternal Glory, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

Bleſs this whole Family to which I belong; ſow in all our Hearts the Seeds of unfeigned Charity, that we may all enjoy the Comforts of a mutual Affection, and of a mutual Aſſiſtance and Aid in our ſeveral Places.

Poſſeſs us with a juſt Senſe of Duty towards thee, and towards Man; that we may be living Members of thy Bleſſed Son; and grant, that being protected by thy good Providence, directed by thy Word, and aſſiſted by the Influence of thy Holy Spirit, we may meet in the Family of Heaven, where we ſhall adore and praiſe thee, love and enjoy thee to all Eternity, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; in whoſe moſt holy Name and Words, I continue to pray,

*Our Father*, &c.

## *An Evening Prayer for a Servant.*

O My God, my Strength, and the Rock of my Salvation, How does my Soul praiſe thee, for thy great Goodneſs, and all the precious Promiſes of thy Goſpel!

But, O my God, I have forgotten thee, though thou haſt given me my Being; I have forgotten thee, though thou gaveſt thine own Son to redeem me; not only to free me from the Puniſhment due to my Sins, but from the Slavery and Dominion of them, and to procure for me Life Eternal. I have feared the Diſpleaſure of Man, whoſe Breath is in his Noſtrils, more than I have feared thine. O thou juſt and holy Judge of Mankind! I have been more ſollicitous for the Bread that periſhes, than for thy Favour, which is better than Life it ſelf; I have ſinned againſt my Knowledge, thy Word, and the Motions of thy Holy Spirit. I have been apt to repine and murmur at thy Providence, and to be diſcontented with my Condition, [*Here mention thy particular Sins.*] But I repent, O my God, of all my Sins, and humbly beg

beg the Aſſiſtance of thy Grace, that I may do Works meet for Repentance, and ſerve thee in Truth, and with an upright Heart, all the Days of my Life.

Have Mercy upon me, O Lord, have Mercy upon me, and forgive me all my Offences; and give me Grace to keep upon my Watch and Guard againſt them. Enable me ſincerely to endeavour to reform and amend my Life, that I may every Day grow and increaſe in Goodneſs, and be ſo much the fitter for Death, the nearer I approach to it: And whenever it comes, let it find me, O Lord, in a Diſpoſition and Frame of Spirit fit to die; having an unſhaken Faith, an humble Reſignation and Submiſſion, an holy Contempt of Earth, and a devout Love of Heaven.

Thou haſt called me to be a Servant, but thou haſt called me to be a Son too, and an Heir of Eternal Life; O give me Grace to be contented, and faithfully to diſcharge my Duty.

Do thou, who never ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt, watch over me, and this whole Family; let thine Angels pitch their Tents about us this Night; let us lie down

down ſecurely, and let our Sleep be ſweet and refreſhing to us, for Jeſus Chriſt his Sake; in whoſe moſt holy Name and Words, I beg all Things needful both for my ſelf, and all Mankind; particularly all that I am any Way bound to pray for;

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Prayer to be uſed by a Servant at any Time of the Day, or that may be added to any other Devotions.*

O Lord my God, thou haſt made me, and doſt diſpoſe of all Things in a wiſe and excellent Order; thou haſt placed me in the Condition of a Servant; O grant that I may diſcharge the Duties of it zealouſly and faithfully; enable me to employ and improve the Talents which thou haſt entruſted me with, to thy Glory, and the Good of my own Soul; and make me uſeful and ſerviceable, honeſt and diligent in the Station, to which it hath pleaſed thee to call me. O ſuffer me not

to

to fall into any Breach of Truſt with Man, leaſt I fall under the Vengeance of thee my God.

Keep me, I beſeech thee, from Pride and Frowardneſs, from Diſcontent and Murmuring, and give me a meek and humble Spirit.

O thou Lover of Peace and Concord, enable me to live in Brotherly Affection, Unity and Concord, with my Fellow-Servants; and grant that we may be a mutual Comfort and Aſſiſtance to one another as well in our ſpiritual as temporal Concerns.

Lord, let not my Soul, by any Connivance or Encouragement, or any other Act of mine, lie under the Guilt of being the Occaſion of the Diſcontent, or Injury, or Ruine of any Family or Perſon; but make me an Inſtrument of Peace and Proſperity where-ever I am. I know, O Lord, that Humility and Induſtry are Virtues that are not ſo pleaſing to a carnal Mind; but do thou make me ſenſible how great the Recompence of Self-denial, and all other Virtues, will one Day be.

Make me, O Lord, to remember that I am always in thy Sight, and that thou doſt

doſt ponder all my Paths; that I may be fully convinced, that both my Temporal and Eternal Intereſt depends upon the faithful and conſcientious Performance of my Duty; that ſo I may not be ſeduced or diſcouraged by any Temptation whatever; but ſtill looking up to God, and having Regard to the Recompence of Reward, I may run with Patience the Race that is ſet before me, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

'Though theſe three Prayers are all 'that are particularly provided for the 'Uſe of Servants; yet 'tis hoped, they 'will not look upon themſelves excuſed 'from uſing others; but that when 'they have Leiſure and Opportunity, 'they will make uſe of ſome of the 'Morning and Evening Prayers for pri-'vate Perſons, as well as ſome of the 'other Prayers for the intermediate Times 'of the Day.

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# EJACULATIONS
## ON
# Several Occasions.

### *Acts of Adoration and Praise.*

1. BLESS the Lord, O my Soul; O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding Glorious, thou art cloathed with Honour and Majesty.

2. O Lord, how manifold are thy Works! in Wisdom hast thou made them all; the Earth is full of thy Riches.

3. To the only wise God, our Saviour, be Glory and Majesty, Dominion and Power, both now and ever. *Amen.*

4. Be

4. Be thou exalted, Lord, in thine own Strength, ſo will we ſing and praiſe thy Power.

5. Bleſſing and Honour, Glory and Power, Thankſgiving and Praiſe, be unto him that ſitteth upon the Throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever.

6. Praiſe the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me praiſe his holy Name: Praiſe the Lord, O my Soul, and forget not all his Benefits.

7. O magnifie the Lord our God, and fall down before his Footſtool; for He is Holy.

8. Bleſſed be the God and Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, which, according to his abundant Mercy, hath begotten us again unto a lively Hope of an Inheritance, incorruptible and undefiled, that fadeth not away.

9. Thy Righteouſneſs, O God, is very high: Great Things, O Lord, are they which thou haſt done: O God, who is like unto thee!

## *Acts of Contrition, with Petitions for Pardon and Grace, that we may reform and amend our Lives.*

1. O Remember not the Sins and Offences of my Youth, but according to thy Mercy think thou upon me.

2. For thy Name's ſake, O Lord, be merciful unto my Sin, for it is great.

3. Enter not into Judgment with thy Servant, O Lord, for in thy Sight ſhall no Man living be juſtified.

4. Have Mercy upon me, O God, after thy great Goodneſs; according to the Multitude of thy Mercies, do away mine Offences.

5. Who can tell how oft he offendeth? O cleanſe thou me from my ſecret Faults.

6. Order my Steps in thy Word, and let not any Iniquity have Dominion over me.

7. Shew me thy Ways, O Lord, and teach me thy Paths.

8. Pity, O Lord, the preſent Frailty of thy Servant, and ſuffer not my Blindneſs to lead me into Ruine.

9. Suffer not my Frailties to become a Cuſtom, leſt I die impenitent, and periſh without Recovery.

10. O thou great Phyſician of Souls, cure me of all my ſinful Diſtempers, and fix me in an even and conſtant Holineſs.

11. Imprint on my Mind this important Truth; That the Pleaſures of Sin are ſhort and momentary, but the Pain and Torment eternal; and, That the beſt that can follow, is a bitter Repentance.

12. O Almighty Lord God, mortifie and kill all Vices in me; and ſo ſtrengthen me with thy Grace, that by the Innocency of my Life, and the Conſtancy of my Faith, I may glorifie thy great and holy Name.

13. Grant me the true Circumciſion of the Spirit, that my Heart and all my Members being mortified from all worldly and carnal Luſts, I may in all things obey thy bleſſed Will.

14. Grant that I being regenerate, and made thy Child by Adoption and Grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit, till I come to the Meaſure of the Stature of the Fulneſs of Chriſt, unto a perfect Man.

15. Enable me to love my Enemies, and to do good to thoſe that hate me, and pray for them that deſpitefully uſe me, and perſecute me; in Obedience to the Command, and in Imitation of the Example of my great Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus.

## *Occaſional Ejaculations for our Advancement and Improvement in a Chriſtian Life.*

1. SET a Watch, O Lord, before my Mouth, and keep the Door of my Lips.

2. O let not mine Heart be inclin'd to any evil Thing; let me not be occupied in ungodly Works.

3. O hold thou up my Goings in thy Paths, that my Footſteps ſlip not.

4. Cauſe me to know the Way wherein I ſhould walk, for I lift up my Soul unto thee.

5. Make thou thy Servant to delight in that which is good.

6. Grant that all Carnal Affections may die in me, and that all Things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in me.

7.

7. Deliver me, O Lord, from the Occaſions of Sin, and the Importunities of ſuch as delight in Folly. Deliver me from the Snare of enticing Company, and the dangerous Infection of ill Example.

8. Grant, O Lord, that like as I have received of thy holy Apoſtles, how I ought to walk to pleaſe thee, ſo I may abound more and more.

9. Make me to underſtand the Way of thy Commandments, and ſo ſhall I talk of thy wondrous Works.

10. O that my Ways were made ſo direct, that I might keep thy Statutes.

11. O let my Mouth be filled with thy Praiſe, that I may ſing of thy Glory and Honour all the Day long.

12. O let me have Underſtanding in the Way of Godlineſs.

13. Try me, O God, and ſeek the Ground of my Heart; prove me, and examine my Thoughts; look if there be any Way of Wickedneſs in me, and lead me in the Way everlaſting.

14. Grant, O God, according to the Riches of thy Glory, that I may be ſtrengthened by the Might of thy Spirit

in

in the inner Man, that Chriſt may dwell in my Heart by Faith.

15. Grant, that I being rooted and grounded in Love, may be able to comprehend, with all Saints, what is the Length, and Breadth, and Depth of the Love of Chriſt, which paſſeth all humane Knowledge; and that I may be filled with all the Fulneſs of God.

16. Give me Underſtanding, and I ſhall keep thy Law.

17. O that my Soul could Love thee without Limits, as thou art in thy ſelf infinitely amiable.

18. Lead me forth in thy Truth, and learn me; for thou art the God of my Salvation.

19. O deal with thy Servant according to thy loving Mercy, and teach me thy Statutes.

20. O God of Peace, ſanctifie me wholly, that my whole Spirit, Soul and Body, may be preſerved blameleſs unto the Coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

21. Create in me a clean Heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me.

*Ejacu-*

## *Ejaculations in Time of Temptation and Affliction.*

1. HELP me, O Lord my God, O ſave me according to thy Mercy.

2. Be not thou far from me, O Lord, thou art my Succour, haſte thee to help me.

3. O keep my Soul and deliver me, let me not be aſhamed, for I put my Truſt in thee. Let Integrity and Uprightneſs preſerve me, for I wait on thee.

4. Grant that I may have Power and Strength to have Victory, and to triumph againſt the Devil, the World, and the Fleſh.

5. Let my Complaint come before thee, O Lord, give me Underſtanding according to thy Word.

6. O hide not thou thy Face from me, nor caſt thy Servant away in Diſpleaſure.

7. Comfort the Soul of thy Servant, for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my Soul.

8. Hide not thy Face from me, in the Time of my Trouble, incline thine Ears unto

unto me when I call, O hear me, and that right ſoon.

9. O deliver me from the wrongful Dealings of Men; and ſo ſhall I keep thy Commandments.

## *General Interceſſions for all Mankind.*

1.  Merciful God, cauſe all them that ſleep in Sin to awake, cauſe them to ariſe from the Dead, that Chriſt may give them Life.

2. Let the People praiſe thee, O God, let all the People praiſe thee, that thy Name may be great among the Gentiles, from the Riſing of the Sun unto the Going down of the ſame.

3. O let the Wickedneſs of the Wicked come to an End, but eſtabliſh thou the Juſt.

4. O continue thy Loving-kindneſs to them that know thee, and thy Righteouſneſs to the Upright in Heart.

5. Grant that all Eſtates of Men in thy holy Church, and every Member of the ſame,

ſame, may truly and godlily ſerve thee.

6. Let thy Prieſts be cloathed with Righteouſneſs, and their Lips preſerve Knowledge.

7. Let all thoſe that put their Truſt in thee rejoice, let them ever ſhout for Joy, becauſe thou defendeſt them: Let them that love thy Name be joyful in thee.

## *A Grace before Meat.*

BLESS to us, O Lord, theſe thy good Creatures which we are now about to receive. Give them Strength to nouriſh us, and us Grace to ſerve thee, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *A Grace after Meat.*

WE acknowledge, O God, our Dependence upon thee, and give thee Thanks for Feeding us at this Time, and for all thy other Benefits [Preſerve thy Church, the King, the Royal Family, and theſe Realms, and grant us Grace, and Peace, and Life everlaſting] through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

An



# An Alphabetical TABLE of the Weekly Collects in the Book of *Common-Prayer*, reduced under proper Heads.

## A.

### *Affliction.*

PRAYERS for Deliverance from, and Support under *Afflictions*. Collects for the 3d *Sunday* after *Epiphany*, 8th after *Trinity*, and 5th *Sunday* in *Lent*.

### *Angels.*

A *Prayer* for the Guardianship of *Angels*. Collect for St. *Michael*.

## C.

### *Charity.* See *Love.*

### *Chastity.*

A *Prayer* for *Chastity*. Collect for the 1st *Sunday* in *Lent*.

### *Christ.*

A *Prayer* for the Imitation of *Christ*. Collect

Collect for the *Sunday* next before *Easter*.

For the Benefit of *Christ's Death*. Collect for the *Annunciation*.

## *Church.*

*Prayers* for the Universal *Church*. Collects for the 5th *Sunday* after *Epiphany*, St. *John*, and the two first Collects for *Good-Friday*.

For the Unity of the *Church*. Collect for St. *Simon* and *Jude*.

For the Peace of the *Church*. Collects for the 5th, 16th, and 22d *Sundays* after *Trinity*.

## *Comfort.*

A *Prayer* for spiritual *Comfort*. Collect for the *Sunday* after the *Ascension*.

## *Contrition.*

A *Prayer* for *Contrition*. Collect for *Ash-Wednesday*.

## *Covetousness.*

A *Prayer* against *Covetousness*. Collect for St. *Matthew's* Day.

## *Courage.*

A *Prayer* for Christian *Courage*. Collect for St. *John Baptist*.

E.

## *Enemies.*

A *Prayer* for Deliverance from all our *Enemies*. Collect for the 3d *Sunday* in *Lent*.

F.

## *Faith.*

*Prayers* for a right and firm *Faith.* Collects for *Trinity Sunday*, the 7th *Sunday* after *Trinity*, St. *Thomas* and St. *Mark.*

For *Faith*, *Hope*, and *Charity.* Collect for the 14th *Sunday* after *Trinity.*

G.

## *Grace.*

*Prayers* for *Grace* and *Aſſiſtance* in our Chriſtian Courſe. Collects for the 4th *Sunday* in *Advent*, 2d in *Lent*, *Eaſter-Day*, 3d *Sunday* after *Eaſter*, 1ſt, 7th, and 13th after *Trinity.*

H.

## *Heaven.*

A *Prayer* for *Heavenly* Deſires. Collect for *Aſcenſion-Day.*

For Admittance to the Enjoyment of God in *Heaven.* Collects for the *Epiphany*, and the 6th *Sunday* after.

## *Humility.*

A *Prayer* for *Humility* and Patience. Collect for the *Sunday* before *Eaſter.*

I.

## *Illumination.*

*Prayers* for *Illumination*, or a right Judgment

ment in all Things. Collects for *Whitſunday*, 1ſt *Sunday* after *Epiphany*, and the 9th after *Trinity*.

## *Judgments.*

*Prayers* for Deliverance from *Judgments*. Collects for *Septuageſima*, *Sexageſima*, and the 4th *Sunday* in *Lent*.

## L.

## *Love.*

*Prayers* for the *Love* of God and his Laws. Collects for the 4th *Sunday* after *Eaſter*, and the 6th and 14th after *Trinity*.

For *Love* and Charity. Collect for *Quinquageſima Sunday*.

For Faith, Hope, and Charity. Collect for the 14th *Sunday* after *Trinity*.

## M.

## *Miniſters.*

A *Prayer* for the Fitneſs of *Miniſters*. Collect for St. *Matthias*.

That *they* may be diligent. Collect for St. *Peter*'s Day.

That *their* Labours may be ſucceſsful. Collect for the 3d *Sunday* in *Advent*.

## *Mortification.*

*Prayers* for *Mortification*. Collects for *Circumciſion* and *Eaſter-Eve*.

P.

## *Prayer.*

For the Aceeptance of our *Prayers*. Collect for the 10th *Sunday* after *Trinity*.

## *Providence.*

*Prayers* for Protection by God's *Providence*. Collects for the 2d, 3d, 4th, and 20th *Sundays* after *Trinity*.

## *Purity.*

A *Prayer* for *Purity* of Heart. Collect for the *Purification*.

R.

## *Regeneration.*

A *Prayer* for it. Collect for *Chriſtmas-Day*.

S.

## *Saints.*

*Prayers* for the Imitation of them. Collects for St. *Stephen*, St. *Paul*, St. *Philip*, St. *James*, St. *John Baptiſt*, and *All-Saints*.

## *Scripture.*

A *Prayer* before reading the *Scriptures*. Collect for the 2d *Sunday* in *Advent*.

## *Sin.*

*Prayers* for *Converſion* from *Sin*. Collects for the 1ſt *Sunday* in *Advent*, the 1ſt *Sunday* after *Eaſter*, St. *Andrew*, St. *James*, and St. *Matthew*.

For Pardon of *Sin*. Collects for the 12th, 21ſt, and 24th *Sundays* after *Trinity*.

### *Sincerity.*

A *Prayer* for it. Collect for the 3d *Sunday* after *Eaſter*.

### *Holy Spirit.*

*Prayers* for the Direction of the *Holy Spirit*. Collects for the 19th *Sunday* after *Trinity*, and 5th after *Eaſter*.

### T.

### *Temptations.*

*Prayers* for Deliverance from, and Support under *Temptations*. Collects for the 4th *Sunday* after *Epiphany*, and the 2d in *Lent*.

### *Thoughts.*

A *Prayer* againſt evil *Thoughts*. Collect for the 5th *Sunday* after *Eaſter*.

### U.

### *Unbelievers.*

A *Prayer* for *Jews*, *Turks*, *Infidels*, and *Hereticks*. The 3d Collect for *Good-Friday*

### W.

### *Good Works.*

*Prayers* for Fruitfulneſs in *Good Works*, Collects for the 5th *Sunday* after *Eaſter*, and the 1ſt, 9th, 11th, 13th, 17th, and 25th *Sundays* after *Trinity*.

*The End of the firſt Part.*

A

# New Manual OF DEVOTIONS.

## PART II.

CONTAINING

## OFFICES

I. Of Humiliation.
II. For the Sick.
III. For Women with Child.

*The Effectual Fervent* Prayer *of a righteous Man availeth much*, Jam. v. 16.

Pœnitentibus dico, quid prodeſt quia *humiliamini*, ſi non *mutamini* ? *S.* Aug.

*The Fifth Edition Corrected.*

*LONDON:*

*Printed for* B. Barker, at the White-Hart, *and* C. King, *at the* Judge's-Head, *both in* Weſtminſter-Hall, 1728.

# PART II.

## An OFFICE of

# HUMILIATION.

*THE Deſign of this Office is to furniſh the good Chriſtian, who has ſet aſide the Whole, or any Part of a Day, to humble himſelf before God for his Sins, with ſuch Prayers as may be proper upon ſuch Occaſions. In the Uſe of the Confeſſions, as indeed of almoſt all private Prayers, every one muſt ſupply or omit, as his Circumſtances require; the Deſign hereof being to provide only for the moſt ordinary Wants of a Chriſtian, on ſuch Occaſions. And as to his Uſe of more or*

*fewer of theſe Prayers, he is left to his own Diſcretion, as Time and Opportunity may ſerve: But becauſe the devout Chriſtian will find himſelf diſpoſed, eſpecially after Retirement, and ſerious Recollection, to render* Thanks *to Almighty God, for the many* Mercies *he has received at his Hands, and to intercede for others, as well as himſelf; there is added a* General Thankſgiving *and* Interceſſion, *either of which may alſo be uſed at other Times, particularly in our Evening Retirement upon the* Lord's-Day.

## Of Self-Examination.

*After you have performed your ordinary Devotions for the Day, you may uſe this Prayer before Examination.*

O THOU great Searcher of Hearts, who ſeeſt and knoweſt all my Sins; help me ſo to ſearch every Secret of my Heart, that I may leave no Sin, if poſſible, unrepented of. Give me Grace ſo impartially to judge and condemn my ſelf ſo humbly

bly to repent and beg Pardon, that I may not be condemned, when I ſhall appear at thy Tribunal, in the great and terrible Day of the Lord Jeſus.

But, alas! after the moſt ſtrict Examination we can make, Who can number his Iniquities? Who can tell how oft he offendeth? Cleanſe me therefore, O Lord, I beſeech thee, not only from my preſumptuous and known Sins, but from all ſecret and unknown Tranſgreſſions, for his Sake, who died for Sinners, Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *Motives to Examination; together with ſome Rules to be obſerved therein.*

HAVING devoutly prayed for God's Aſſiſtance, doubt not but he will vouchſafe it you. And the better to diſpoſe your Heart to the Duty of Self-Examination:

" Conſider ſeriouſly with your ſelf;
" *That it is appointed for all Men once to*
" *die, and after Death to be call'd to Judg-*

" *ment. That God hath appointed a Day in*
" *which he will judge the World in Righte-*
" *ouſneſs by Jeſus Chriſt. At whoſe Com-*
" *ing all Men ſhall riſe again with their*
" *Bodies, and ſhall give an Account of their*
" *own Works: And they that have done*
" *Good, ſhall go into Life everlaſting; And*
" *they that have done Evil, into everlaſting*
" *Fire: For the Books ſhall be opened, and*
" *the Dead ſhall be judged, out of the Things*
" *written in thoſe Books, according to their*
" *Works.* And then conſider how much,
" how nearly it concerns you to judge your
" ſelf before that Time; that you be not
" judged, that is, condemned of the Lord.

" Since then you muſt give an Account of
" your ſelf, of all your Thoughts, Words,
" and Actions; and be acquitted or con-
" demned at the laſt Day, according as they
" have been conformable to the Law of
" God, or not; with what Serioufneſs,
" with what Sincerity, and religious Awe,
" ought you to ſet about this great Work?
" ſo that by comparing your Life with the
" Law of God, you may perceive wherein
" you have done amiſs, and heartily repent
" of your Sins; and by the Grace of God,
" reſolve to lead a new Life; in all Things

" con-

" conforming your ſelf to his holy Will and
" Pleaſure, and then you ſhall not be con-
" demned of the Lord.

" Again, Conſider with your ſelf, that
" Now is the Time of Salvation; That
" by the Uſe of theſe Means of Grace, you
" may get an Opportunity of Reconciling
" your ſelf to your offended God; of do-
" ing the Work you are ſet to do; and
" of making your ſelf capable of Salvation;
" which you know not how ſoon may be ta-
" ken from you.

" And that this Conſideration may have
" the better Effect upon you; imagine
" your ſelf a while in the other World,
" amongſt ſeparate and departed Spirits,
" whoſe Seaſon and Opportunity of Action
" is over; upon whom the Sun of Grace,
" as well as natural Life, is gone down,
" and that Night come in which no Man
" can work; who are either happy or mi-
" ſerable for ever.

" Conſider with your ſelf ſeriouſly the
" Condition of theſe Spirits, what Thoughts
" and Sentiments they have of Things;
" what they think of a ſinful, and what
" Senſe they have of a holy and reli-
" gious Life; what inward Rejoicings

" and Raptures thoſe have, who were ſo
" wiſe and happy, as to apply them-
" ſelves to Virtue and Piety: And
" how they do now juſtify and approve
" their Conduct, bleſſing and admiring
" the Grace and Goodneſs of God. And
" what Anguiſh, Rage, Self-Condemna-
" tion, and Regret, thoſe return upon
" themſelves, who lived and indulged
" themſelves in Sin and Wickedneſs! How
" do they unwiſh all their paſt Thoughts
" and Actions, their Deſigns and Under-
" takings, their Buſineſſes and Employ-
" ments, their Pleaſures and their Friend-
" ſhips, their vain Converſations, and their
" merry Meetings, their Jeſts on Religion,
" and upon good Men, yea, and their
" very Beings too; I ſay, how do they
" unwiſh all theſe Things! How paſſion-
" ately do they wiſh again for thoſe Op-
" portunities which they once had, but can
" never again recover; and which you now
" have, but are too apt to miſ-ſpend and
" trifle away: Not conſidering this Life
" is the only Opportunity for tranſacting
" the great Affair of Eternity; and that
" though it is now in your Power to be
" happy, yet it will not be always ſo; for

" your

" your Day will end, and your Night will
" come. And therefore it highly concerns
" you, to employ the preſent Time well,
" and to work whilſt it is called to Day,
" before the Night cometh, when no Man
" can work. Conſider ſeriouſly of theſe
" Things, and, by the Grace of God, they
" will work upon your Heart, and make
" it more humble, more conſiderate, more
" diſpoſed for Repentance and Devotion,
" and more ſuſceptible of Divine Impreſ-
" ſions.

2*dly*. " After you have ſo long conſider-
" ed of theſe Things, as to be affected
" with them, ſet your ſelf as in the Pre-
" ſence of Almighty God, who knoweth all
" Things, and carefully examine into the
" State and Condition of your Soul. For
" which purpoſe, you may uſe the Heads
" of Examination that follow, or ſuch other
" as you find better ſuited to your Con-
" dition: And where you find you have
" offended God, you ought ſorrowfully to
" confeſs, and bewail your having ſo done,
" and reſolve by his Grace to amend for
" the future.

" For you are to conſider, Examination
" is in order to attain a true and diſtinct

" Knowledge

" Knowledge of your ſelf, and the Actions
" of your paſt Life; and eſpecially to
" bring your Sins to Remembrance, with
" all their aggravating Circumſtances: So
" that conſidering the Folly of them, and
" the evil Conſequence thereof, you may
" be brought to a Hatred and Abhorrence
" of them; to a hearty Sorrow for them,
" and thorough Purpoſe of forſaking them.
" And moreover, Examination is in order
" to recollect what Temptations have
" uſually prevailed on you, and to conſider
" before-hand, whether the ſame, or what
" other are, or may be moſt liable to
" prevail, ſo that you may arm your ſelf
" againſt them by holy Reſolutions, and
" Watchfulneſs, and Circumſpection; and
" alſo to try the Temper and Diſpoſition
" of your Mind and Heart, whether you
" are ſo reſigned, contented, and humble,
" and have ſuch Love and Charity, and
" ſuch other holy Diſpoſitions, as the
" Goſpel requires; that if you have not,
" you may endeavour, by the Aſſiſtance of
" God's Grace, to attain them; and alſo
" may take up ſuch holy Reſolutions, that
" every Thought (ſo far as humane Infirmi-

" ty

" ty will admit) may be brought into Sub-
" jection to the Will of God. And when
" you have in ſome Meaſure attained to
" Newneſs of Life, you muſt endeavour to
" grow in Grace, and in the Knowledge of
" our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

" I ſay, Self-Examination is in order to
" bring you to a true and ſincere Repen-
" tance; by which I do not mean, a
" Sorrow for Sin only, but alſo an entire
" Change of Mind, and an effectual Refor-
" mation of Life; ſo as hereafter to deny
" all Ungodlineſs and worldly Luſts, and
" to live ſoberly, righteouſly, and godly in
" this preſent evil World; not allowing
" your ſelf in the Continuance of any known
" Sin; but ſincerely practiſing whatſoever
" you ſhall underſtand to be your Duty;
" and to bring forth Fruits meet for Re-
" pentance, by ceaſing to do Evil, and
" learning to do Good: that is, in ſhort,
" to live a holy Life, which conſiſts in a
" conſtant and perſevering Obedience to
" all the Commands of God in a Goſpel
" Senſe; (allowing for humane Weakneſſes
" and Imperfections) which I take to be the
" proper Notion the holy Scriptures give
" of Repentance, and upon which only there
" is any Promiſe of Salvation. " When

" When therefore you have carefully
" examined your ſelf, and (as it may be
" proper) ſet down in Writing what Sins
" you find you have committed, and what
" Duties you have neglected; conſider
" them in all their aggravating Circum-
" ſtances; whether they have been done
" againſt the Checks of your Conſcience,
" againſt the Motions of God's Holy Spirit,
" and perhaps ſome of them frequently,
" and againſt your Reſolutions to the con-
" trary. But there may be yet greater
" Aggravations of Sin; namely, when the
" Sinner has committed it ſo often, and liv-
" ed in it ſo long, that it is become Habi-
" tual or Cuſtomary to him, and inſtead of
" being aſhamed and confounded for it, he
" makes a Mock at it; and not only takes
" Pleaſure and Delight, but boaſts and
" glories therein. The Neceſſity of con-
" ſidering the ſeveral Aggravations of our
" Sins, appears from hence, becauſe the
" Circumſtances we were in, when we
" committed ſuch or ſuch a Sin, may not a
" little enhance and increaſe our Guilt;
" and a Sin attended with many aggrava-
" ting Circumſtances in the Commiſſion
" thereof, requires a proportionable Degree

" of

" of Sorrow and Humiliation, in order to " our forſaking it, and obtaining Pardon " for it.

" This being done, endeavour to poſſeſs " your Mind with a true Senſe of the *great* " *Evil of Sin*; how contrary it is to God's " *Holineſs*, to his *Will*, to his *Commands*, " his *Goodneſs*, his *Juſtice*, and eſpecially " to the great *Myſtery* of *Godlineſs*; how " contrary alſo it is to Man, to his *Reaſon* " and *Conſcience*, to his inward *Peace* and " *Satisfaction*, and to his *Intereſt* temporal " and ſpiritual, preſent and future; that " this is the *only Evil*, which was thought " worthy of the Son of God to deliver us " from, who died to redeem us from the " Bondage of Sin and Satan. In the " Height of all that Love, which the com- " paſſionate Saviour of the World had for " periſhing Mankind, he did not think fit " to reſcue them from *Pain*, *Sickneſs*, *Po-* " *verty*, *Diſgrace*, or any of the common " Afflictions of humane Life; no, nor " even from Death it ſelf. All theſe ſeem- " ed to be below his Notice; only Sin " and Damnation appeared to him to be " Evils ſo great, that he would not endure " the Thought of our being ſubject to " them.

" them. For *God ſo loved the World, that*
" *he gave his Only begotten Son, to the End*
" *that all that believe in him* (and obey
" him) *ſhould not periſh, but have everlaſt-*
" *ing Life:* I add *obey*, becauſe in this
" Text, as in divers others, the Word *Belief*
" is taken for the *Whole* of *Religion*, *Obe-*
" *dience* as well as *Faith.*

" Endeavour to keep a conſtant Remem-
" brance of theſe Things in your Mind;
" for they will be of great Uſe to you, not
" only to lead you to a true Repentance
" for what is paſt, but to prevent your fal-
" ling into Sin for the future.

" It will be impoſſible to give ſuch Di-
" rections for the Performance of this Duty,
" as will be proper for all Perſons; thoſe
" who have led wicked Lives, and have for
" a long Time put off Repentance, have to
" be ſure a great Account to make up; and
" therefore muſt ſpend the more Time and
" Pains in reconciling themſelves, conſider-
" ing their paſt Lives, and forming good
" Reſolutions. Thoſe that began this
" Duty betimes, and who, by the Grace of
" God, have been kept in their Youth from
" contracting vicious Habits, or committing
" any great Sins, have leſs to do, when

" they

" they ſet about this Duty: Nevertheleſs, " Self-Examination, *&c.* being a Duty ſo " often, and ſo plainly taught by God in " Holy Scripture, who beſt knew the Ne- " ceſſity and Advantage of it; no one, " that is a Chriſtian, ought to neglect, or " perform it ſlightly.

" When you examine your ſelf, let it be " chiefly about your wilful Sins, and Sins " of Commiſſion; and be not over-ſcrupu- " lous, either to accuſe your ſelf of Sin you " never committed, or to reckon up all " your Infirmities; for that would render " your Examination endleſs and impracti- " cable: And though there may be ſome " Sins that you may doubt whether you " have committed; others you may fear " you have forgot; yet be not diſcouraged, " for when you have acted honeſtly and " ſincerely, reſt ſatisfied; it being all that " Religion requireth: But what Sins you " cannot recollect and find out, ſo as " particularly to confeſs and bewail, you " ought to conclude under a general Re- " pentance for whatſoever you have done " amiſs; and to pray that God would " cleanſe you from your ſecret Faults.

" When

" When you have once thoroughly ex-
" amined your Life, you muſt not think
" your Work is at an end; but muſt fre-
" quently exerciſe your ſelf therein; and
" the oftner you do ſo, the more eaſy and
" delightful you will find it. At ſuch
" Times it may not be neceſſary that you
" ſhould examine your whole Life with
" that Strictneſs you did at firſt; but
" chiefly examine your ſelf, how you have
" kept your good Reſolutions, what Progreſs
" you have made in a religious Courſe of
" Life, and what Sins of Commiſſion or
" Omiſſion you have been guilty of, ſince
" your laſt Examination, and how you
" came to fall into them; what the Tem-
" ptations, what the Circumſtances and
" Occaſions; that you may arm your
" ſelf againſt them, and ſo avoid them for
" the Time to come.



# General Heads

## OF

# EXAMINATION.

"O My Soul, enter into the Conſideration of thy own State; ſearch thy Heart to the bottom; ask thy ſelf, what "thou haſt done, how thou haſt carried "thy ſelf ſince the Time thou waſt by "Baptiſm firſt admitted into Covenant "with God, or ſince thou didſt laſt renew "that Covenant with him. How haſt thou "behaved thy ſelf with reſpect to the "Duties thou oweſt to God, thy Neighbour, "and thy Self?

## I. *Of our Duty towards* GOD.

HAVE I loved God before, and above all other Things?

Have I received the Scriptures, not as the Word of Men; but, as it is in Truth, the Word of God?

Have the Promiſes and Threatnings therein prevailed with me, to govern my ſelf according to its holy and admirable Precepts?

Have I not prophaned the holy and dreadful Name of God, by Perjury or unlawful Oaths, or by cuſtomary Swearing or Curſing in my common Converſation?

Have I not irreverently mentioned the Name of God in my common Converſation?

Have I honoured him by a reverend Uſage of whatſoever Things or Perſons belong to him, and are dedicated to his Honour and Service?

Have I religiouſly obſerved the Day ſet apart for his more immediate Worſhip, in keeping it holy, to thoſe Ends for which it was appointed; by attending the Publick

Service

Service of the Church; in reading and hearing his holy Word; in Prayer and Meditation, and good Diſcourſe?

Have I ſpent and ſquandered it away in uſeleſs and unneceſſary Viſits, in wicked or unprofitable Converſation, or in following the Works of my Calling?

Have I truſted in God, and acknowledged my Dependence upon him only?

Have I every Day duly prayed to him, and praiſed him for his Mercies?

And when I have done it at Church, or at Home in my Family, or in Secret by my ſelf, Hath it been only out of Cuſtom; or with ſuch a Senſe of God, and ſuch Seriouſneſs, Fervency, and Affection, as he requires?

Have I uſed ſuch Conſiderations beforehand, as might enable me rightly to perform the ſame?

Have I laboured to form ſuch Apprehenſions of God, as are worthy of his adorable Majeſty, and to furniſh my Mind with uſeful and neceſſary Knowledge?

Have I (notwithſtanding the Means of Grace, and the Light of the Goſpel) ſuffered my ſelf to live in Ignorance of him, and my Duty?

Hath

Hath the Conſideration of his infinite Power made me fearful to offend him?

Have I feared Man, more than God, by committing Sin, to avoid Diſgrace, or any temporal Evil?

Have I preſumptuouſly hoped for Salvation, whilſt I continued to live in the wilful Commiſſion of one or more Sins?

Have I not been ſo fooliſh as to put off my Repentance, thereby rendring my ſelf leſs able to ſet about it?

Have I reſigned my ſelf, and all my Concerns, to the All wiſe and good Providence of God?

Have I endeavoured to bear his afflicting Hand with Patience and Humility; conſidering that the greateſt Suffering I can undergo in this World, are much leſs than the Deſert of my Sins? Or have I not murmured, or been impatient under any Trouble that has befallen me?

Have I grown better by Afflictions?

Have I frequented the Holy Sacrament? Or have I not ſtaid away thro' cauſeleſs Prejudice, or feigned Excuſes, being unwilling to part with my Sins?

If I have come to the bleſſed Sacrament, Have I not received it without Repentance,

and

and a ſtedfaſt Purpoſe to lead a new Life; without a firm and lively Faith, a hearty and thankful Remembrance of the Love of Chriſt, in giving himſelf to be a Sacrifice for my Sins; and without a ſincere and univerſal Love and Good-Will to all Mankind?

Have I made it my Care to live ſuitably to my Sacramental Profeſſion, and ſolemn Engagements?

Have I endeavoured to affect my Heart with a lively Senſe of the multiplied Mercies of God to me, both Temporal and Spiritual?

Have I ſeriouſly conſidered that amazing Inſtance of the Love of Chriſt, in Redeeming me from the Bondage and Dominion of Sin, and the Tyranny of the Devil?

Do I depend upon the Merits and Satisfaction of Chriſt, and hope for Acceptance with God, only thro' him, and not for any Merit of my own?

Have I, as a weak Creature, depended upon the Light, Grace, and Aſſiſtance of the Holy Spirit, to further my Endeavours, to guide and ſtrengthen me in all my Performances, and

to

to direct and comfort me in all my Temptations, Difficulties and Troubles?

## II. *Of our Duty towards our Neighbour.*



My Soul, ſeriouſly conſider thy paſt Actions; How haſt thou diſcharged thy Duty to thy Neighbour? Haſt thou
" conſidered that in the Senſe of the Goſpel,
" not only the Perſon who dwells near thee,
" but every Man is thy Neighbour?

Have I, according to the Ability and Opportunities which God hath given me, done Good to all that ſtand in need of my Help?

Have I carried it to my Neighbour, as one that loves him ſincerely and heartily?

Have I done unto others, as I would they ſhould do unto me? that is, Have I done to others what I could reaſonably expect or deſire they ſhould do to me, if in the like Circumſtances? And on the other Hand, Have I been careful to do nothing

thing to any one that I would reaſonably deſire another ſhould not do unto me?

Have I, in Conformity to this Rule, endeavoured in my Place and Station to prevent Evil and Damage to the Souls, and Bodies, and Eſtates of others?

Have I wrong'd no Man in his Soul, by leading him into ſuch Errors, as are deſtructive of true Religion; by enticing and teaching him to ſin againſt God, and wound his Conſcience; by ſetting him an ill Example; by counſelling or commanding him to do that which was diſpleaſing to God, or by conſenting to his Sins?

Have I diſcouraged or deterred any one from the ſerious Practice of Religion and Piety?

Have I ſought and endeavoured to bring thoſe to Repentance, whom I have any ways led into Sin?

Have I delighted cauſeleſly to grieve any one?

Have I hurt any Perſon in his Body, by offering any Force or Violence to him; by drawing him into Intemperance, or any Vices; or by exciting Jealouſies, Quarrels, or Fightings among Men?

Have I injur'd my Neighbour in his Goods or Eſtate, by damaging him; by defrauding or over-reaching him in Bargains, or Contracts; or in his Good-Name, by Slandering, Back-biting, or Inſult?

Have I, in the Management of my Eſtate or Calling, run into Debt without Hopes or Deſign of Payment?

Have I not publiſhed my Neighbours Faults, when neither the Glory of God, nor the Good of others, made ſuch a Publication neceſſary?

Have I raſhly or wrongfully cenſured or judged any Perſon?

Have I flattered any into Evil, ſoothing them up in it, or commending them for it, or for that Good I knew they had not?

If I have by any Means, or upon any Account whatſoever, done any Wrong to any Perſon; have I endeavoured to my Power to make what Reparation or Satisfaction I can, thereby teſtifying my ſincere Repentance for what I have done amiſs?

When others have offended, or injured me, have I been eaſy to be reconciled; and ready to forgive, and to do Good-Offices even to my Enemies; conſidering my own

many

many and great Offences both againſt God and againſt Man, of which I hope, and need Forgiveneſs?

Have I reſted only in not doing Wrong, in not injuring my Neighbour, either in Soul, Body, or Eſtate?

Have I had that univerſal Love and Charity to all Men, as to deſire all Good to them, and not ſo much as to wiſh Evil or Harm to any one?

Have I not envy'd the Good or Proſperity of my Neighbour?

Have I endeavoured to aſſiſt my Neighbour in any Good, to comfort him in his Troubles; and when aſperſed wrongfully, to vindicate his Reputation?

Have I relieved the Wants and Neceſſities of my Neighbour according to my Power, as one that is affected with them, and as being my ſelf alſo in the Body, and liable to the ſame Wants, Diſtreſſes, and Troubles with others?

Have I had a more ſpecial Love to all true and ſincere Chriſtians, born with their Infirmities, and heartily deſired and ſought their Welfare?

Have I obſerved Truth in my Words, and Dealings, and Contracts with all Men?

Have I not offended by Lying, Falſhood, or Miſrepreſentation?

Have I performed my Words and Contracts without Shuffling, Treachery, and Deceit?

Have I carried it with an humble, quiet, and peaceable Spirit to all Men, avoiding (as much as in me lay) all Occaſions of Offence, Quarrels, or Differences?

On the contrary, have I not widened and enlarged them?

Have I been careful of thoſe of my Family, my Friends, and Relations, or any others that are committed to my Care, to counſel, to comfort, to reprove, as Occaſion was given, and Need required?

## *Relative Duties.*

" How have I performed the Duties incumbent upon me towards my ſeveral " Relations?

### *As a Husband,*

HAVE I been faithful to the ſolemn Contract and Engagement I then made in the Preſence of God? Have

Have I, in all lawful and reaſonable Inſtances, condeſcended and complied with my Wife?

Have I loved, cheriſhed, comforted, and honoured her?

Have I born with her Weakneſſes and Infirmities?

Has my Behaviour to her been prudent, flexible, and obliging?

Have I not been peremptory, rigorous, and magiſterial in my Commands?

Have I neglected to defend and protect her, to maintain and provide for her?

Have I not omitted to pray for her, and to ſhare with her in all her reaſonable Joys and Sorrows?

## *As a Wife,*

HAVE I refuſed to comply with thoſe Commands, in which God requires me to obey and ſerve, to love and honour my Husband?

Have I not provoked him, or publiſhed his Faults?

Have I born with his Infirmities?

Have I given him cauſe of Jealouſie, or been unfaithful to his Bed?

Have I been frugal in the Management of my Expences with reſpect to the Circumſtances and Condition of my Husband?

Have I not been expenſive and prodigal in my Way of Living?

Have I not ſquandered away my Husband's Subſtance?

Have I reſtrained my ſelf within thoſe Bounds, that both Reaſon, Religion, and the Condition of my Husband require?

Have I been indifferent and careleſs in my Carriage towards him, not forecaſting to do what I thought would oblige and pleaſe him?

Have I been diſobedient to his juſt Commands, and ſo caſt off his Yoke from me?

Have I been unconcerned in his Joys and Sorrows?

Have I neglected to recommend him to the Grace and Protection of God in my Prayers?

## *A Parent.*

HAVE I preferred the eternal Intereſt of my Children before their temporal?

Have I not been more careful and ſolicitous to provide for their Bodies than their Souls?

Have I taught them, as they were capable of Learning, to know, to fear, to love and worſhip God, with a perfect Heart, and a willing Mind?

Have I early inſtructed them in the Ways that lead to Life everlaſting, and endeavoured to form in their Minds the Principles of Virtue and Religion?

Have I earneſtly and frequently prayed to God for the Gifts and Graces of his Holy Spirit, to renew, and change and purifie their corrupt Nature, and for his Bleſſing and Favour upon them?

Have I been no Ways acceſſary to the Sins of my Children, by any ill Example I have ſet them?

Have I not given them ſuch an Education, as would naturally lead them into Pride and Vanity?

Have I endeavoured to make them of a meek and humble Diſpoſition?

Have I taught them how to govern their Paſſions, and to moderate their Affections to worldly Things; and encouraged them, by my own Example, to follow that which is Good?

Have I done my Part to provide what was neceſſary and convenient for their Living, and comfortable Subſiſtence and Being in the World?

Have I not been too fond and indulgent to them; ſuffering them to go on in their Follies and Sins, without ſuch Correction and Reproof, as in Duty I was bound to give them?

## *A Child.*

HAVE I reverenced and honoured my Parents, obeyed their lawful Commands, and attended to their wiſe Counſels and Inſtructions?

Have I adviſed with them in Affairs of Conſequence and Concern to me?

Have I not been diſobedient to them; diſhonoured them in my Mind, or carried my

my ſelf rudely and irreverently in my Behaviour towards them?

Have I not been aſhamed of them?

Have I not mocked, or ſpoken Evil of them

If reduced to Want and Poverty, have I made a comfortable and honourable Proviſion for them, according to my Ability?

Have I not been ſtubborn and Obſtinate towards them, and endeavoured to caſt off my Subjection to them?

Have I not diſpoſed of my ſelf in Marriage, without their Advice or Conſent?

## *A Brother or Siſter.*

HAVE I had a tender Affection, and a compaſſionate Concern for my Brethren and Siſters, endeavouring to promote their Good, both ſpiritual and temporal?

Have I commended them to God in my Prayers?

Have I not been unconcerned for their Welfare, and deſtitute of natural Affection towards them?

## *A Maſter.*

HAVE I treated my Servants as a Chriſtian, and like one who believes that he has a Maſter in Heaven, to whom he muſt render an Account?

Have I performed the Conditions I obliged my ſelf to, when I took them into my Service?

Have I uſed them with Mildneſs and Gentleneſs?

Have I been cruel and ſevere towards them, laying a greater Burden upon them than they were able to bear?

Have I had a tender Care and Concern for their Souls, endeavouring to inſtruct them in the Duties and Principles of the Chriſtian Religion?

Have I afforded them Time and Opportunities for the Service of God in Publick and Private?

Have I taken Care of their Bodies, by providing what was fitting for them?

Have I not put them upon Cheating and Lying, and ſo been a Partaker with them in their Sin?

Have

Have I been remiſs in ſuffering them to neglect their Duty to God?

Have I been conſtant in my daily Devotions with my Family?

Have I not omitted this neceſſary Duty upon ſuch ſlight and trivial Pretences and Excuſes, as would have had no Weight with me in Matters that relate to this temporal Life?

## *A Servant.*

HAVE I been faithful and induſtrious in ſerving my Maſter and Miſtreſs?

Have I been honeſt and juſt to them?

Have I defrauded them of their Goods, or been careleſs and waſteful of them?

Have I diſobeyed their lawful Commands?

Have I any ways injured them in their Reputation?

Have I ſerved them with Singleneſs of Heart, as to the Lord, and not to Men?

Have I been diligent in my Duty, only when I was obſerved and taken Notice of?

Have I, as much as in me lay, lived quietly

quietly and peaceably with my Fellow-Servants?

Have I not been ſpiteful and malicious againſt them?

Have I not accuſed them wrongfully?

Have I ſet before them a good Example?

Have I exerciſed that Tenderneſs to the Children in the Family, that was juſtly and reaſonably expected from me?

Have I prayed for my Maſter and Miſtreſs, and the reſt of the Family, in my private Prayers?

## *As a Magiſtrate*, &c.

HAVE I made it my Endeavour to be a Terror to Evil-Doers, and a Praiſe to them that do well?

Have I expreſſed a Zeal for the Honour of God, by bringing publick Offenders to Juſtice; by putting the Laws in Execution againſt all Vice, Profaneneſs, and Debauchery; and by giving a good Example my ſelf?

Have I not diſcouraged thoſe, who, from a Concern for the Intereſts of Religion, and a Love to the Souls of Men, have

have been zealous and active in this good Work?

Have I not been more intent upon my own private Intereſt, than in advancing the common Good?

Have I been faithful and diligent in the Diſcharge of thoſe Duties that are incumbent upon me, as living in the Town, Place, or Pariſh, whereto I belong?

Have I endeavoured to inform my ſelf of my Duty, in order to the doing of it, when I have been called to the Office of Conſtable, Church-Warden, or any other Pariſh-Office?

Have I conſidered how to avoid and ſhun whatever might occaſion Striſe and Diſſention, and endeavoured what in me lies, to become uſeful and ſerviceable in my Place and Station?

## III. *Of the Duties towards our Selves.*

HAVE I wisely considered the End for which I was created by God, that I might be the better able to direct all my Thoughts, Words, and Actions to that End?

Have I not lived without Thought and Consideration, though Interest and Duty, and the express Command of God, call and oblige me to be much and frequent in the Exercise thereof?

How have I spent my precious Time?

Have I not wasted it in Idleness, or in any unprofitable Vanity?

Have I laid to Heart the Shortness and Uncertainty of this present Life, and daily improved it to the best Advantages?

Have I exercised a daily Care and Watchfulness over my deceitful Heart, resisting its Importunities and Lusts?

Have I seriously considered the great Damage and Mischief that Sin has done to humane Nature; and applied my self with my whole Strength and Might, to recover that Resemblance, which Man, when he first

firſt came out of his Maker's Hands, bore to him?

Have I contented my ſelf with the Form and Outſide of Religion and Godlineſs, neglecting the Life and Power thereof?

Have I laboured after the true Mortification of the Spirit, after that real and inward Purity of Soul, which Chriſt requires in all his Diſciples and Followers?

Have I diligently and earneſtly implored the Aids and Aſſiſtances of the Holy Spirit of God, to renew and ſanctifie me?

Have I laboured to improve my Soul in Knowledge and Wiſdom, in Grace and Holineſs, taking heed to ſecure my Salvation more than any temporal Intereſt?

Have I been contented with my preſent Portion of Good here, according to the Will of God?

Have I not ſuffered my ſelf to be immoderately diſcompoſed at Events which are not in my Power; and been diſſatisfied and uneaſy in ſuch Circumſtances, as the good Providence of God has thought fit to place me in?

Have I not been too covetous of the World, its Riches, Honours, and Pleaſures?

Have

Have I not ſought to gain or keep them by ſinful Means?

Have I not been immoderately concerned, and anxious about preſent Things?

Have I not grieved overmuch for worldly Croſſes, Loſſes, and Diſappointments? And on the other ſide, Have I not placed my Happineſs in its good Things, and rejoiced in them over-much?

Have I laboured to diſintangle my Affections from this World, and to raiſe up my Mind to the Things which are above; the Enjoyments of that ſuperiour World, for which I was principally deſigned?

Have I been diligent and faithful in that Place and State of Life, unto which it hath pleaſed God to call me: labouring therein to do my own Buſineſs, and to provide thoſe Things that are needful and expedient for my ſelf and Family, and ſuch as depend upon me; and to make my ſelf uſeful in the World, and charitable to my Fellow-Creatures?

Have I been temperate and chaſte, as one that is ſenſible, that the Perfection and Happineſs of a reaſonable Creature does not conſiſt in ſenſual Enjoyments, but in thoſe that are ſpiritual?

Have

Have I therefore watched againſt the Luſts of the Fleſh?

Have I not had an impure Heart, or unclean Affections, or offended by any unchaſte Behaviour, Words, or Actions?

Have I abſtained from all unnatural and unlawful Pleaſures of Senſe; and been moderate in the Uſe of ſuch as are lawful and allowable by the Chriſtian Religion?

Have I reſtrained my Appetite? Have I not committed Exceſs in Eating and Drinking, in Sleep, or Recreations?

Have I frequently exerciſed my ſelf in Self-Denial and Mortification, that my Fleſh might be ſubdued, and my Spirit refin'd; and ſo prepared and qualified for the Company, the Employment, and the Pleaſure of Heaven?

Have I been humble and little in my own Eyes, as a depending Creature, and poor Sinner ſhould be?

Have I not betrayed Pride and Haughtineſs in Word or Carriage? Have I not, from an Over-Valuation of my ſelf, been ambitious of, or too much affected with the Applauſes of Men above my Deſert; or made it too much my End in any of my Actions?

Have I not to that End unduly ſet out my ſelf to procure my own Praiſe?

Have I not been too nice and tender of my own Reputation, to the Neglect of my Duty?

Have I not feared too much the Cenſures, Revilings, and Reproaches of Men, in the Diſcharge thereof?

Have I been contented to be vile for God's Sake?

Have I been Meek and Gentle in my Spirit, Words, and Behaviour? Have I bore with the Weakneſſes, Indiſcretions, and Infirmities of others, as becometh one who is ſubject to Infirmities?

Have I not been angry without Cauſe, or above juſt Cauſe?

Have I not been pettiſh and froward in little Things, and upon meer Miſtakes, and involuntary Errors of others, for want of reviewing Things in their juſt Nature, Weight and Meaſure?

Have I not ſuffered the Sun to go down upon my Wrath? Have I not continued in it to the Vexation of my own Spirit, and thereby render'd my ſelf unfit for the Diſcharge of my Duty both to God and Man?

'It

'It is not eaſie to enumerate all the In-
'ſtances of Duty reducible to theſe three
'Heads; nor to ſet down the ſeveral
'Breaches and Violations of them: But
'the careful Reading of the Holy Scri-
'ptures, more eſpecially the New-Teſta-
'ment, together with the Checks and Re-
'proofs of every Man's Conſcience, will
'abundantly ſupply this Defect. The
'Method here propoſed will, I believe, (if
'carefully attended to) aſſiſt any one in
'getting a competent Knowledge of his own
'State and Condition.

'I think it proper to obſerve here, that
'divers Methods have been propoſed by
'wiſe and good Men, to aſſiſt us in the
'Examination of our ſelves, and to ren-
'der it more eaſie unto us. I will but juſt
'mention ſome of them, and refer you to
'ſome Books of Piety, wherein they are
'treated of at large.

'Some have collected a ſhort Summary
'of the Sins forbidden, and Duties com-
'manded in the Holy Scriptures, and ex-
'amined themſelves thereby. *See Dr.*
'Horneck's *Crucified Jeſus*, Chap. 23. *Mr.*
'Kettlewell's *Meaſures of Chriſtian Obedi-*
'*ence*, Book 2d. throughout.

'Others

'Others have reduced the Sum and Subſtance of our Duty to the *Ten Commandments*; and by the Help thereof have, with great Advantage, performed this neceſſary Work. *See the* Art of Catechizing, *p.* 15, *&c.* 57, *&c. Dr.* Comber *on the* Common-Prayer; *His Diſcourſe on the* Communion-Office; or any Expoſition of the *Ten Commandments*. Some have examined themſelves by our *Lord's Sermon on the Mount*, contained in the 5th, 6th, and 7th Chapters of St. *Matthew*. *See Dr.* Hammond's *Expoſition of* Chriſt's *Sermon on the Mount*, *in his* Practical Catechiſm, *Lib.* 2. *Sect.* 1, &c. Others have followed that general Diviſion of Duty mentioned by St. *Paul*, Tit. ii. 12. namely, to God, our Neighbour, and our ſelves; which is the Method here propoſed.

'I will mention but one Method more, namely, by recollecting the ſeveral Parts and Branches of the Baptiſmal Vow, making a Pauſe at each Particular; and enquiring how we have kept it; and in what Inſtances we have broken the ſolemn Engagements we then entred into. The Peruſal of Dr. *Bray's Diſcourſe upon*

*the*

'*the Baptiſmal Covenant*, or any other ju-
'dicious Expoſition on the Church Cate-
'chiſm, will be uſeful to us, when we ex-
'amine our ſelves in this Method.

'Thoſe that have made ſome Progreſs
'in Chriſtianity, and are in good Earneſt
'ſtriving to enter in at the ſtrait Gate, and
'walk in the narrow Way that leadeth to
'Life, find the Examination of themſelves
'much more eaſie than thoſe who indulge
'themſelves in Sin, and live careleſs and
'negligent Lives; for the former are ſtill
'labouring after a nearer Conformity to
'the Example of Chriſt Jeſus, and keep a
'Watch and Guard over themſelves. E-
'very Portion of Scripture they read and
'hear; every Grace and Virtue that is
'recommended in Publick; every Sin,
'againſt which the Judgments of God
'are denounced, ſuggeſts Matter to them
'to examine themſelves by; and they
'can preſently, without any Reluctance,
'put the Queſtion to themſelves, Do I
'practiſe this or that Virtue? Am I guil-
'ty of this or that Sin?

'It is not material which of theſe
'Methods we follow, provided the Thing
'be

'be carefully done; every one is at 'Liberty to chooſe which he thinks will 'beſt let him into the Knowledge of 'himſelf, and enable him to judge, whe-'ther, according to the Terms of the 'Covenant made with Man in Chriſt 'Jeſus, a happy or miſerable Eternity is 'likely to be his Portion. If he wants 'more particular Directions, he may have 'recourſe to ſome ſpiritual Guide.

'Though Self-Examination be a Duty, 'which ought no Day to be wholly omit-'ted; yet there are ſome Seaſons where-'in we ought to take a more exact Survey 'of our own State: Such are Times of 'Trouble and Affliction; Days of Faſt-'ing and Humiliation; and when (by 'the Aſſiſtance of the Divine Grace) 'we have a lively Senſe of the great 'Evil and damning Nature of Sin; and 'before we renew our Covenant with God 'in the Holy Sacrament.

*A Prayer*,

## *A Prayer, conſiſting of Confeſſion of Sin, and imploring Pardon and Grace; which may be uſed in our Preparation to the Sacrament, or at other Times of extraordinary Devotion.*

I.

ALmighty Lord God, juſt and holy, I deſire to humble my ſelf before thee, in a deep Senſe of my own Vileneſs and Unworthineſs, by reaſon of the many and great Sins I have at any time committed againſt thee, my Sovereign Lord and Judge.

I have offended thee by evil Thoughts of many Kinds; by vain, raſh, falſe, or wicked Words; and by many unjuſt and ungodly Deeds, which I have committed againſt the Dictates of Reaſon, the Checks of my own Conſcience, and the known Precepts of my Duty.

II.

I have too often neglected the Duties of Religion,

Religion, which is the great and important Concern of my Life. And when I have performed them, it hath been often careleſly and out of Cuſtom, or without due Affection and Attention of Mind.

I have not ſerved thee with that Purity of Intention, with that Sincerity of Heart, with that Fervency of Spirit, with that Zeal for thy Glory, with that Watchfulneſs, Care, Diligence, and Conſtancy, that I ought.

If I have been at any time ſenſible of my Sins and Infirmities, I have not preſerved ſuch a Senſe of them, as ought to have made me more circumſpect and watchful againſt them, or leſs liable to cenſure or condemn other Men; but have too raſhly condemned my Neighbour, or impaired his Credit; or given Countenance to others who have done ſo; or not diſcouraged them in ſo doing, as I might and ought.

III.

The Pleaſures and Buſineſs of this Life, or the Deſires of growing Rich, or being Great, have cauſed me too often to forget that I am but a Stranger upon Earth, and that my

my Days are as a Shadow, that will ſoon paſs away.

Nor have I ſo far diſengaged my Heart, as by thy Grace I might, from all Things here below, as to have my Hopes and Affections principally ſet on Things above, and on that Happineſs which will laſt for evermore.

But I have been too anxious and ſolicitous for the Things of this Life, not conſidering thy gracious Promiſe, that if I firſt ſeek the Kingdom of God and his Righteouſneſs, all Things neceſſary ſhall be added unto me.

Nor have I been ſo contented with my Condition in this World, nor ſo reſigned to thy Providence, as I ought.

How little have I mortified my Members which are upon the Earth, inordinate Affection, evil Concupiſcence, and Covetouſneſs! and yet I know, that if any one love the World, the Love of the Father is not in him; and that the Poor in Spirit are bleſſed.

IV.

I have not been ſufficiently thankful for the continued Effects of thy Bounty towards me. Neither have I received the afflicting

Diſpenſations of thy Providence with ſuch Patience and Submiſſion as is due to thy Wiſdom, nor made ſuch Improvements and Advantages of them, as thy Goodneſs did thereby intend me.

V.

I know that Religion has nothing in it that is worthy of Blame or Reproach, but is of all Things the moſt comely, and worthy of a Man; and yet out of a fooliſh Regard to the Opinions and Cenſures of Men, I have too often been aſhamed to practiſe divers important Duties, and to diſcountenance the evil Practices or Vices of others, or to own the Cauſe of Vertue and Piety; not conſidering, that whoſoever is aſhamed of Chriſt and his Words, in this adulterous and ſinful Generation, of him ſhall the Son of Man be aſhamed, when he cometh in the Glory of his Father with the Holy Angels.

VI.

I believe that all Scripture is given by Inſpiration of God, and is profitable for Doctrine, for Reproof, for Correction, for Inſtruction in Righteouſneſs, that ſuch as deſire, and ſincerely endeavour to ſerve Thee truly, may be perfect, throughly fur-

furniſhed unto all good Works. And yet, O God, how ſeldom, how little, have I read and pondered thy holy Word! how much have I omitted Searching the Scriptures! and how fooliſh in Reading other Books more than them! Not conſidering they beſt ſet before us the Way of Life, and the Way of Death, and teach us what we muſt do to be ſaved from the Wrath to come, and to inherit eternal Life.

And when I have read thy holy Word, it hath not been with ſuch good Diſpoſitions, with ſuch an attentive and teachable Mind, with ſuch an humble Heart, and ſincere Intentions to do whatſoever I ſhould perceive to be thy Will, as I ought.

VII.

I have not had that juſt, that low and mean Opinion of my ſelf, that I ought; but have been too much deſirous of the Praiſes of Men.

I have not been ſo meek and gentle, ſo patient and conſiderate under Reproaches, or ill Treatment, as I ought; but have been too often carried out into ſuch Degrees of Anger, or Reſentment, as have diſcompoſed my ſelf, or injured my Neighbour; nor have I been ſo ready to put the faireſt

and moſt charitable Conſtructions upon his Words or Actions, as I ought.

VIII.

In my Tranſactions with Men, I have not had ſuch Regard to ſuch ſincere and candid Dealing, or Equity, as I ought; but have been too deceitful in my Words or Actions; and often too ſevere and rigorous in demanding my Dues, or too backward in paying others, when, or in ſuch reaſonable Meaſure, as I could and ought.

I have been too inſenſible of the Wants and Miſeries of my Neighbour, nor have I had that Tenderneſs and Compaſſion towards him, as to embrace all ſuch Opportunities of Relieving him, as I had Opportunity and Ability to do.

On all Accounts I have too little conſidered the Bleſſing thou haſt promiſed to the Merciful, and the many and great Mercies I daily receive of thee, and that I ſhall ſtand in need of much more and greater Mercy from thee at the great Day of our Lord.

I know the Pure in Heart are bleſſed, for thou haſt promiſed they ſhall ſee thee, O God. And yet ſo inſenſible, and unmoved have I been, that I have taken little

Care

Care to cleanſe my ſelf from all Filthineſs of Fleſh and Spirit, ſo as to ſanctifie thee, my Lord God, in my Heart, whereby I might have a good Hope of ſeeing thee, O God, in whoſe Preſence is Fulneſs of Joy for evermore.

I know, to this Bliſs, Holineſs is the Way; and yet how feeble and inconſtant have been my Endeavours after it!

IX.

I have not been ſo careful in employing my Time, as I ought; but have ſpent much of it in Eating, and Drinking, and Sleeping, beyond what the Support and Refreſhment of Nature required, and too much in what I have called Recreation and Diverſion. I have ſpent too much Time in dreſſing and adorning my Body; and in paying, or receiving formal or impertinent Viſits; and have ſeveral other Ways ſpent much of my precious Time idly or unprofitably to my ſelf or others.

How little Time have I ſpent in Reading, Meditation, and Self-Examination!

How little in Mortification, Abſtinence, Faſting, and Retirement! And yet the Day of my Life is far ſpent, and the Night of Death is at hand, when no Man can work.

X.

How backward have I been to examine the State of my Soul, and to call my Sins to remembrance, ſo as to mourn and be affected with a godly Sorrow for them!

XI.

O! how ſtrong a Propenſion have I to do Evil! and how ſtrange an Unwillingneſs to do Good!

I confeſs, and lament, and bewail my wretched State. I am corrupt, I have ſtray'd out of the Way of Life and Happineſs; my Conſcience accuſeth me, and my Heart condemneth me. Yet, lo, thou, O God, art greater than my Heart, and knoweſt all Things --- [*Here more Particulars may be mentioned.*] And, eſpecially, I lament and bewail before Thee, from whom nothing is hid, that I have grievouſly offended Thee by --- [*Here name the particular Sins.*]

XII.

Theſe my Sins, with many more that I cannot remember, are all in thy Sight, and have left their wretched and miſerable Effects upon my Mind and Heart; whereby thy Image, in which I was created, is become defaced; and I am eſtrang-

ed

ed from thee, my God, my true and only Good and Happineſs. So that when I look back upon the Errors and Miſcarriages of my Life, and reflect how little I poſſeſs of the Spirit and Temper of the Goſpel, *My Heart trembleth for fear of thee, and I am afraid of thy Judgments.* Oh! how ſhall I appear before the Judgment-Seat of Chriſt, *when he ſhall come in his Power with the holy Angels, to judge every Man according to his Works, and take Vengeance on them that obey not the Goſpel,* ſince my Life has been ſo unconformable thereto!

But I repent, O my God, I repent, I accuſe and condemn my ſelf, I am grieved, I am troubled, and am heartily ſorry for theſe my Miſdoings, and turn unto thee with full Purpoſe and Reſolution of ſincere Obedience for the Time to come.

And, I beſeech thee, O Lord, who art gracious and merciful, long-ſuffering, and of great Goodneſs, and the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, who died for the Ungodly, for his Sake, and for thy Goodneſs Sake, pardon and forgive all my Sins; my Sins of Ignorance, and thoſe I have committed through want of Care and Circum-

ſpection, but eſpecially, all my wilful Sins, and thoſe Tranſgreſſions whereby I have any ways ſcandalized the Chriſtian Profeſſion, or occaſioned others to fall, and which I lament before thee.

O Lord, Holy Father, who alone canſt order the unruly Wills and Affections of ſinful Men, who gaveſt thy Son to die, that he might redeem us from all Iniquity; pardon and rectifie the Impurity of my Heart and Life, all irregular Appetites and Paſſions, and every wicked Practice, of what Nature or Kind ſoever; that all my Members being mortified from all worldly and carnal Luſts, I may no longer live in the Fleſh, to the Luſts of Men, but according to thy Will, O God; and for ever hereafter live godly, righteouſly, and ſoberly in this preſent evil World.

And ſeeing I am not able to do theſe Things of my ſelf, ſtrengthen me, I beſeech thee, O Lord, with the Holy Ghoſt, and daily increaſe in me thy manifold Gifts of Grace; the Spirit of Wiſdom and Underſtanding, the Spirit of Counſel and ghoſtly Strength, the Spirit of Knowledge and true Godlineſs;

and

and fill me, O Lord, with the Spirit of thy holy Fear; that I may have Victory and Triumph againſt the Devil, the World, and the Fleſh, and at the laſt obtain the Gift of Eternal Life, which thou haſt promiſed to all thoſe that ſincerely love and obey thee, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *Another Form of Confeſſion.*

O Moſt Great and Glorious Lord God, Juſt and Terrible in thy Judgments to all obſtinate and rebellious Sinners, but of infinite Mercy to ſuch as truly repent, and turn unto thee; look down, I beſeech thee, with the Eyes of Mercy, upon me, who now preſent my ſelf before thee, acknowledging that I am not worthy to lift up my Eyes to the Throne of thy glorious Majeſty. O Lord, my Sins are ſo many, and ſo great, that it is owing to thy infinite Goodneſs and Mercy, that I have now an Opportunity of humbling my ſelf before thee,

and begging Mercy for my Soul, which, I confeſs, has greatly ſinned againſt thee.

I acknowledge, O my God, that thou haſt, by innumerable Inſtances, manifeſted thy ſelf to be a moſt kind and indulgent Father; but alas! I have abus'd thy Goodneſs, and made very ungrateful Returns for thy exceeding Kindneſs and Mercy. Inſtead of loving and delighting in thee, and paying thee a filial and cheerful Obedience, I find in my ſelf many times a great Proneneſs to offend thee, and a great Backwardneſs and Indiſpoſition to do thoſe Things which thou requireſt of me.

O Lord! I lament and bewail the Corruption of my Nature, moſt ſorrowfully confeſſing before thee, that I have too great a Deſire after the Things of this World; too great a Fondneſs for the Profits and Pleaſures of it: And though I am fully perſwaded, that it is my Happineſs and Privilege, as well as my Duty, to love and ſerve thee, yet I am very apt to forget thee, and to grow careleſs and remiſs in that great and important Work, which thou haſt given me to do.

O my God! I confeſs with Sorrow, that this World hath taken ſuch hold of my Affections,

Affections, that I neither love thee, ſerve thee, nor obey thee as I ought to do; my Devotion to thee is many times Cold and Languid; my Prayers are full of Wandrings, Deadneſs, and Diſtractions, and the very beſt of my religious Duties are accompany'd with ſo many Failings and Imperfections, that I have great Cauſe to humble my ſelf before thee.

*This is to be varied or omitted, as every one ſees fit.*

" How greatly, O God, " have I offended thee, by " Luſt and Intemperance, " by Peeviſhneſs, Paſſion, " and Anger, by Covetouſneſs and Am- " bition, by Pride and Envy, by Prejudice " and Ill-will towards my Neighbour, by " murmuring and repining at the Diſpen- " ſations of thy Providence, and by an " Unwillingneſs to reſign my ſelf to thy " Diſpoſal in all Things? How frequent- " ly have I violated my Baptiſmal En- " gagements, by preferring the Vanities of " this wicked World, before thy Favour, " and by ſuffering my Heart, which has " been ſo often dedicated to thy Service, to " be brought under the Bondage and Do- " minion of Sin and Folly?

And

And what ſhall I now ſay unto thee, O thou Preſerver of Men! O Lord, I have no Hope but in thy Mercy, and the infinite Merits of my dear Redeemer: and if thou rejecteſt me, I am loſt and undone for ever. But, O thou compaſſionate Lover of Souls! who knoweſt whereof we are made, and remembereſt that we are but Duſt, turn not thy Face from me, nor caſt thy Servant away in Diſpleaſure; let the Interceſſions of thy beloved Son prevail in my Behalf, and for the ſake of his meritorious Death and Paſſion, for all that he has done, and all that he has ſuffered for me, have Mercy upon me; pardon and forgive, I moſt earneſtly and unfeignedly beſeech thee, all the Sins and Follies of my Life paſt, which are more than I can number, and greater than I am able to bear; and more eſpecially, O my God, lay not to my Charge [*Here again may be named Particulars.*] O cleanſe me from all my ſecret and unknown Tranſgreſſions, and vouchſafe, O Merciful Father, to be reconciled unto me, who am ſorry for my Sins, and griev'd that I have offended thee, my moſt gracious Lord and Maſter, to whom I owe all the Returns of Love and Duty,

Duty, that can poſſibly be paid by a Creature to his Creator.

O Lord, reſerve not my Sins to be puniſhed in the Day of thy fierce Anger; (for who can dwell with everlaſting Burnings! who is able to abide the Fury of thy Wrath!) but ſpare me, O moſt Mighty God, and Merciful Saviour; and grant that I may never fall into thoſe Evils which my Sins have juſtly deſerved. Thy Property is always to have Mercy; to thee only it appertaineth to forgive Sin; O turn away thy Anger from me, who meekly acknowledge my Vileneſs, and truly repent me of my Faults, and do now unfeignedly turn unto thee, with full Purpoſe and Reſolution of Heart to ſerve thee faithfully, and to make it the great Care and Endeavour of my Life to pleaſe and obey thee.

O Lord! there is nothing that I deſire ſo much, as to be of the Number of thy faithful and obedient Servants: Thy Favour is better than Life it ſelf; thy Service is the moſt perfect Freedom. O enable me, by the Aſſiſtance of thy Bleſſed Spirit, to forſake all my Sins, and to reform whatever has been amiſs in the Temper and Diſpoſition of my Mind, or in any of the

Actions

Actions of my Life. Open thou my Eyes, that I may ſee the Vileneſs and Deformity, as well as Danger of Sin; that I may fly from all Appearance of Evil, and with an unwearied Diligence follow after and purſue the Things that make for my everlaſting Peace. Grant, that for the Time to come I may live only unto thee, in an awful Fear of thy great Name, and a conſtant Regard to thy bleſſed Will, keeping always a Conſcience void of Offence, both towards thee, and towards all Men.

Give me Grace to ſpend my Time religiouſly, ſoberly, and uſefully, in the ſubduing my Paſſions, mortifying my corrupt Inclinations, and in the Practice of all thoſe Duties thou requireſt of me; that when thou ſhalt think fit to take me out of this State of Trial and Temptation here, I may be received into that bleſſed Kingdom, where all Tears ſhall be wiped from my Eyes, and Sin and Death ſhall be no more. Grant this, O merciful Father, through the Merits, and for the Sake of thy Son and my alone Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer to be uſed at the ſame Time, or ſhortly after either of the foregoing Confeſſions.*

O Moſt Gracious and Merciful Father, who, in Pity and Compaſſion to my Soul, haſt given me this Opportunity of humbling my ſelf before thee, accept, I earneſtly entreat thee, of my unfeigned Sorrow for all the Sins which I have committed againſt thy Divine Majeſty; I confeſs, it bears no Proportion to the Heinouſneſs of my Offences; ſo weak and imperfect is it, that my Repentance it ſelf needs to be repented of. O do thou in much Mercy look upon me, and let the infinite Merits of my dear Redeemer ſupply all my Defects, and diſdain not, I beſeech thee, for his dear Sake, to be reconcil'd unto me, and to admit me into thy Favour, without which I am of all Creatures the moſt miſerable.

O Lord, there is nothing that I deſire ſo much, as to be delivered from the Power and Dominion of my Sins, and to be at perfect Peace with thee; for I have no

Reſt,

Reſt, ſo long as I think I am under thy Diſpleaſure. I humbly therefore beg leave at this Time to renew the Vows and Reſolutions I have often made, of loving and obeying thee; and for that End, I offer unto thy Divine Majeſty my Soul and Body, and all that is mine, humbly beſeeching thee to take them into thy Cuſtody, that being in Safety under thy Protection, they may be for ever devoted to thee and thy Service.

It is not, O Lord, with any Confidence in my own Strength, that I preſume to give up my ſelf to thy Obedience, for alas! I am ſenſible that my Heart is very falſe, and too eaſily drawn away by the deceitful Tempter) but all my Hope, and all my Dependance is in thy Almighty Power and Goodneſs; and to that I humbly fly for Help againſt the cruel Enemy of my Soul, who is daily lying in wait to deſtroy me. I know thy Grace is ſufficient for me, and therefore in thee do I put my Truſt. Thou art my Hope and my Confidence, my Saviour and mighty Deliverer; O never leave me then to my ſelf, nor to the Weakneſs of my own corrupt Nature; but let thy Holy Spirit be always preſent with

with me, to defend me in all my Conflicts, to ſupport me under my many Weakneſſes and Infirmities, to inſtruct me in all difficult Caſes, and to carry me in Safety thro' the Trials and Temptations of this dangerous and deceitful World; and grant, O merciful Father, that I may never grieve that Bleſſed Spirit, nor fall into thoſe Sins and Impurities, which will cauſe him to leave and forſake me, and to abandon me to my own fooliſh and perverſe Will; but give me Grace in all Things to follow his Guidance and Direction, and to devote my ſelf entirely to a Life of Virtue and Religion; that denying all Ungodlineſs, and worldly Luſts, I may live righteouſly, ſoberly, and godly, in this preſent World; and after I have ſerv'd thee faithfully in this Life, I may be received into thoſe bleſſed Regions of everlaſting Reſt and Peace, which thou haſt reſerved for them that truly and ſincerely love and ſerve thee; through the Merits of thy beloved Son Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A Confeſſion of Sins, to be uſed by a grievous Sinner, who having led a very wicked Life, is now come to a Senſe of his Sins, and deſires to humble himſelf before God for the ſame.*



Moſt mighty God! Thou art a conſuming Fire to all rebellious and impenitent Sinners; a dreadful Avenger of ſuch as are obſtinately wicked; but a moſt compaſſionate Father to all thoſe that truly repent, and turn unto thee; O, how ſhall I dare to ſpeak unto thee, who am all over Sin and Pollution; a Creature vile and loathſome in my own Eyes by Reaſon of my Sins, but much more ſo in thine, who art a God of infinite Purity and Holineſs, and hateſt Iniquity with a perfect Hatred! O Lord, when I look back upon my paſt Life, I am aſtoniſh'd at thy Patience and Long-ſuffering towards me; and muſt acknowledge, that hadſt thou dealt with me as I have deſerv'd, I had long before this been condemn'd to endleſs Miſery and Torments.

Torments. For ever ador'd be that Goodneſs of thine, which has dealt ſo graciouſly with me; for ever praiſed be that Mercy, which has ſnatch'd me out of the Jaws of the devouring Lion; and ſav'd me from the Pit of Deſtruction, which I was running headlong into; for ever magnified be that Grace, which has at laſt touch'd my Heart with a Senſe of my Sins, and given me this Opportunity of humbling my ſelf before thee.

O Lord, I do now moſt ſorrowfully bewail and lament before thee, the Sins and Iniquities of my paſt Life, which are ſo exceeding many and great, that as I am confounded at the Guilt of them, ſo I know not where to begin, when I would confeſs them before thee. Even from my Youth up have I been a rebellious and diſobedient Sinner, a Contemner of thy Laws, and one of thoſe wretched Fools, that have made a Mock at Sin, and would not hearken to wiſe Counſel and Reproof; I have grieved and deſpiſed my Parents, derided my Superiors, and followed the Dictates of my own fooliſh and perverſe Will; my Mind has been over-ſpread with Blindneſs and Ignorance, Folly and Falſe Reaſonings, and almoſt

every Power and Faculty of my Soul is corrupted and defac'd; that Time, which ſhould have been employed to holy and excellent Purpoſes, I have either conſumed upon my Luſts, or trifled away in vain and unprofitable Purſuits.

Wretched Fool that I was! How have I preferred a Life of Folly and Madneſs, of Riot and Extravagance, of Noiſe and Diſorder; a Life, that has yielded no other Fruits but thoſe bitter ones of Shame and Remorſe, of Sorrow and Affliction, before the Peace, and Pleaſure, and Serenity of a virtuous, ſober, and religious Converſation! How have I thought the Ways of Religion dull and unpleaſant; and nothing any further eligible, than as it conduc'd to the Pleaſures and Profits of this World!

O my God, I have ſinned againſt thee with a high Hand, and have led a Life directly oppoſite to thy bleſſed Will; I have moſt grievouſly neglected the Duties of Religion both in Publick and Private, having ſpent little of my Time in thy Service, and that little, (O Lord, thou knoweſt) in a prophane or unworthy Manner; while others have been offering up their Prayers and Praiſes to thy Divine Majeſty,

or

or liſtening to thy Holy Word, my Eyes have been frequently wandring after Vanity, and my Mind full of idle and impertinent, and many times (alas? with Shame I confeſs it) of wanton and laſcivious Thoughts.

O Lord! I dare not ſay, that I have ſpent any one Day of my Life to thy Honour and Glory; but how many Days, nay, Years, have I ſpent in the Service of Sin; in Luſt and Intemperance; Brutiſhneſs and Senſuality; in profaning thy Sabbaths, abuſing thy ſacred Name, ridiculing thy holy Word, deſpiſing thy Miniſters, and making a Jeſt of all that is ſerious.

I have been proud and envious, luſtful and intemperate, paſſionate and angry, full of Malice, Hatred and Revenge; I have been guilty of ſlandering and abuſing, injuring and defrauding of my Neighbour; or of lewd Actions and obſcene Diſcourſes; of prophane and filthy Jeſts; and of frequent Curſing, Swearing, and Lying. And more particularly, O Lord, I do moſt ſorrowfully confeſs, and lament before thee, to whom all Things are naked and open,

that

that I have moſt grievouſly offended thee by —— [*Here name Particulars.*]

And beſides the Guilt of theſe my Sins, I have greatly increaſed it by the Sins of others. How many have been tempted and perſwaded to ſin againſt thee, either by my Advice, Encouragement, or ill-Example! Alas! I have not only been wicked, very wicked my ſelf, but, with Shame and Sorrow I confeſs it, I have been inſtrumental in making others ſo too; (particularly —— *Here again may be named any particular Sin of this Nature*) Lord, what Scandal have I brought to Religion; what Diſhonour to thy Name; what Reproach to the Chriſtian Profeſſion, by theſe my wicked and ſinful Practices!

And what ſhall I now ſay unto Thee, O God, whoſe Goodneſs I have thus abus'd; whoſe Mercies I have ſlighted; whoſe Promiſes and Threatnings, declared in the Goſpel, I have rejected; and whoſe Judgments I have deſpis'd? What Hope can I entertain of the Merits of a Saviour, whoſe Blood I have, as it were, trampled under Foot! or what Comfort can I expect from the kind Influences of the ever-bleſſed Spirit; whoſe Motions I have ſo often

often rejected; whoſe Calls and Invitations I have ſo long been deaf too, and whom I have ſo often grieved by my wicked and ſinful Practices!

Oh! Whither ſhall I then fly for Succour? Who ſhall deliver me from the Wrath of that God, whom I have thus offended? Shall I call upon the Mountains to cover me, or the Deep to ſwallow me up? Alas, there is nothing can hide me from his All-ſearching Eye: O bleſſed Saviour of the World! Thou alone art my Refuge; in thee is all my Hope, all my Support; and if thou rejecteſt me, I am loſt and undone for ever: Oh! turn not away thy Face from me, nor caſt thy Servant away in Diſpleaſure: Be thou my Advocate with the Father, and let thy Blood be the Propitiation for my Sins.

And, O moſt merciful Father, thou infinite and compaſſionate Lover of Souls! who delighteſt not in the Death of the Wicked, nor deſpiſeſt the Tears of a returning Sinner, for the Sake of thy dear Son, I moſt earneſtly beſeech thee to hear the Groans of me, a miſerable Sinner, who am ready to ſink under the heavy Weight

and

and Burden of Sin. Look with Pity upon me, I humbly entreat thee, who am not worthy, I confeſs, to lift up my polluted Eyes to Heaven; my Sins have made me the juſt Object of thy Wrath; and ſhouldeſt thou now be deaf to all my Supplications, it would be but a juſt Return for my having ſo long refuſed to hearken to thy gracious Calls and Invitations to Repentance. O miſerable Wretch that I am! that ever I ſhould thus offend ſo good, ſo merciful a Father; that ever I ſhould make him my Enemy, who is the kindeſt, and the beſt of Friends; Lord, I condemn my ſelf, and abhor the Follies of my paſt Life; my Fleſh trembleth for Fear of thee, and I am horribly afraid of thy Judgments; for who can ſtand in thy Sight when thou art angry? or who is able to abide the Fury of thy Wrath?

O my God! I have no Hope but in that Mercy of thine, which thou haſt manifeſted in the Redemption of the World, by thy Son Chriſt Jeſus; that alone is the Support of my Soul under all its Sorrow and Anguiſh; in Him I know and am aſſured, that thou art a merciful God, full of Compaſſion, Long-ſuffering, and of great

great Pity; thou ſpareſt when we deſerve Puniſhment, and in thy Wrath thinkeſt upon Mercy: Spare me therefore, O good Lord, ſpare me, and be not angry with me for ever: Waſh away all my Sins in the Blood of thy dear Son, who came into the World to ſave Sinners; and for the Sake of his meritorious Death and Paſſion, and for all the Sufferings which he underwent for the Sins of the whole World, pardon and forgive, I moſt earneſtly, and moſt unfeignedly beſeech thee, all the Sins and Tranſgreſſions of my paſt Life, more particularly —— Cleanſe thou me, O my God, from all my ſecret and unknown Sins; and O be thou reconciled unto me, and receive me to thy Favour, which though I have hitherto ſo fooliſhly ſlighted, yet I now value and prefer above all the Pleaſures of this World. Alas! my Luſts and Paſſions have for a long time had the Dominion over me; they have blinded and ſeduc'd me, and my whole Life has been one continued Error and Miſtake; but, Lord, thou haſt been pleas'd to open my Eyes, when I was juſt at the very Brink of Deſtruction, and ſhewn me the Precipice I was falling into; and

now I ſee, and condemn the Folly of my paſt Life, and am ſenſible, that unleſs thy Pity had interpos'd, I muſt have periſhed for ever. O let that infinite Love which mov'd thee to ſo aſtoniſhing a Mercy, be ſtill continued to me, a poor, wretched, helpleſs Creature; ſhew thou me the Path that leads to everlaſting Life, and give me ſuch a Senſe of thy amazing Goodneſs to me, that I may never again wander into thoſe Ways that lead to Death and Deſtruction. Take from me, O God, this harden'd and corrupt Heart, and give me a new Heart, new Affections, and new Deſires, that I may becomei ntirely a new Creature, dedicated to thy Service, and devoted to thy Fear.

Give me, O Lord, ſuch an unfeigned Repentance of all my paſt Sins, ſuch a Hatred and Abhorrence of my former evil Ways, that I may from this Moment take a final Leave of all my beloved Luſts and ſinful Pleaſures. Give me that humble and contrite Spirit, whoſe Groans thou doſt never refuſe; that Faith which overcometh the World, and which will enable me to conquer my moſt inveterate

veterate Habits; and that Love, which will make me afraid to offend thee, and which will inſpire me with Reſolutions active and vigorous, honeſt and ſincere; ſuch as by the Aſſiſtance of thy Grace and Holy Spirit may carry me through all Difficulties, and be Proof againſt all the Temptations of the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil.

O Lord, hear me, O Lord, help me, and have Mercy upon me: O Lord, pity and ſave my Soul for thy Truth and Mercies Sake in Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen*, Bleſſed Lord. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *Prayers containing a Profeſſion of godly Sorrow for Sins, and of Reſolutions of new Obedience.*

### I.

I Call my Ways to remembrance, O Lord, with a troubled Heart; my Evil-doings are before my Eyes, and are vile and loath-

ſome in my own Sight, becauſe they have made me ſo in thine; they are a Burthen upon my Spirit, a ſore Burthen, too heavy for me to bear.

But now, O my God, with a Heart ſorrowful and penitent, I turn from my Evil Ways, reſolving by thy Grace to become a new Creature; from this Day forward I am fully purpoſed to betake my ſelf to a Religious Courſe of Life; O! let not Iniquity be my Ruine.

II.

And from my Sins, O Holy Father, which are the Shame and Burden of my Life, I turn unto thee, who art the Glory and Comfort, and ſhalt for ever be the Guide and Governour thereof. I turn unto thee with a broken and contrite Heart, O receive and comfort me, and deſpiſe not, I beſeech thee, the Work of thy own Hands. I turn to thee with my whole Heart, and make no reſerves, nor will retain any Allowance of my former Sins; no, not of thoſe, which have been moſt delightful to me, and are hardeſt to be parted with; for if I regard Iniquity in my Heart, I know thou wilt not hear me;

me; and therefore I will make haſte, and not delay to keep thy Commandments.

O Lord, I beg no greater Mercy than to be found ſtedfaſt in thy Ways; nor ſhall account any Thing ſo great an Happineſs, as that which ſerves to keep me faithful unto thee. I am content that my Ways ſhould be hedged up with Thorns, with Troubles and Afflictions, or any thing that is grievous to Fleſh and Blood, rather than I ſhould ever forſake the Paths of Righteouſneſs, to wander again after my former Vanities; for 'tis the unfeigned deſire of my Heart, and ſhall be the great Endeavour of my Life, above all Things to ſerve and pleaſe thee, and to hold me faſt by thee, who art the faithful Guide and Keeper of my Soul; and my earneſt Prayer to thee is, that thou would'ſt preſerve me from falling away from thy Fear, and forfeiting that Mercy which thou haſt promiſed to the returning Sinner.

## III.

And having now, by thy Grace, O

merciful Father, theſe Holy Thoughts and Deſires in my Heart, I earneſtly beg of thee, who art the bleſſed Author and Giver of all Grace, that I may never loſe or forget them. I give my Heart entirely to thee, and humbly pray, that it may be always in thy Hands, ſince it is ſo unconſtant in what is good, and ſo prone to what is Evil, when it is in my own keeping. O Father, keep it ſtedfaſt and unmoveable in thy Ways; let it not be inclined to any evil Thing, nor lean towards my former Vanities; keep my Eyes from beholding Wickedneſs, and my Ears, from liſtening to the deceitful Tempter; let not my Lips utter any thing that is Evil, nor my Feet move a Step in the Paths of Death; but let every Member of my Body, every Faculty of my Soul, be employed in thy Service, till thou bringeſt me to the Enjoyment of thy bleſſed Self, in that Place of Bliſs and Happineſs, where thou dwelleſt for evermore. Grant this, O moſt merciful God, for the ſake and through the Interceſſion of my deareſt Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

IV.

## IV.

O Lord, I am not worthy to lift up my Eyes unto thee; but whither ſhould a Wretch in Guilt and Miſery look, but unto thee, the Fountain of all Mercy? Whither, but to a God, whoſe Mercy is greater than our Wickedneſs? To a God, whoſe Property it is to be kind to his Enemies; and whoſe Patience to bear our Sins, is as great as his Power to puniſh them; and who had much rather be reconciled to us, than take Vengeance on us? Whither indeed, but to thee, O God of all Grace and Comfort, who ſheweſt Mercy to the Unworthy, and inviteſt us with all the Tenderneſs and Bowels of a compaſſionate Father, to turn from our Evil Ways, that our Souls may live, and be for ever happy in thy Eternal Kingdom.

## V.

Encourag'd therefore by thy Goodneſs, O Lord, I addreſs my ſelf unto thee, who am ready to ſink under the heavy Load of Guilt and Miſery: But I make no

Plea, but for thy Mercy; nor have any Pretence to claim it (for, alas! I muſt with ſhame acknowledge, I have very much abus'd it) but through thy unexpreſſible Love, I know I have a moſt merciful Saviour, who died to purchaſe Salvation for us; and who now powerfully interceeds with thee for the Pardon of true Penitents; O! for his dear ſake, receive me graciouſly to thy Mercy, and be not angry with me for ever. Forgive me, O merciful Father, for I am heartily ſorry for all the Evils which I have done: Forgive all my Sins, for I am fully reſolv'd, by thy Grace, to love and ſerve thee: Forgive me, O moſt gracious God, for I forgive all that have offended me, and do intreat thee to forgive them likewiſe. O do not exact Puniſhment of me for my Sins; but extend thy Mercy and Pardon to my Soul, for my dear Redeemer's Sake Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## VI.

And having thus utterly renounced my Sins, O Holy Father, I deſire above all Things to partake of thy Righteouſneſs; having

having defaced and corrupted my ſelf, I would fain be made new by thee; having hitherto miſcarried, whilſt I would be in my own Hands, I deſire now to be altogether in thine, and never more to wander from thee; and therefore, whatever elſe I loſe, my earneſt and longing Prayer is, that I may recover thy Likeneſs, and be made conformable to thy Will in all Things, through Jeſus Chriſt my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

## VII.

I know, O Gracious Lord, that I cannot receive this, but from thy ſelf; Oh! therefore be thou both the Bleſſed Giver and the Gift: I confeſs that I am utterly unworthy to have thy Divine Image ſtampt upon my Soul, but alas! I extreamly need it, and extreamly value it; and I dearly Love thee, O my God, or elſe I ſhould not be thus deſirous to be like thee.

Hear me therefore, O gracious Father, and breath into my Heart that Spirit which renews us after thine own Image, in Righteouſneſs and true Holineſs.

Bleſſed Jeſus, who ſeekeſt out Sinners to make them good, do not reject me now, when I ſeek to thee to make me better. I am poor and naked, Oh! Cloath me with thy Righteouſneſs; my good Thoughts are changeable and unconſtant; but Oh! do thou ſtabliſh and fix them by thy Grace: Set up thy Kingdom, O Jeſu, in my Heart; for to become thy faithful Servant is more to me than to have the Empire of this World. Keep me ſtedfaſt in ſerving thee, till thou takeſt me finally to enjoy thee.

## VIII.

O Saviour of the World! ſave me, who by thy Croſs and Paſſion haſt redeemed me; help me, and ſave me, I beſeech thee, O my God.

## IX.

Grant, O Lord, that at all Times I may account my Sins to be my Shame, and make thy Laws to be my Rule, and thy Bleſſed Will in every Thing my Choice and Satisfaction. O let thy Promiſes be

my

my Hope, thy Providence my Guard, thy Grace my Strength, and thy Bleſſed Self my Portion both now and evermore. *Amen.*

## X.

The Lord bleſs me and keep me; the Lord lift up the Light of his Countenance upon me: The Lord give me Peace, even that Peace of his, which paſſes all Underſtanding, through the Merits and Mediation of my dear Redeemer Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; to whom with the Father and the Eternal Spirit, be all Honour, Glory, Love, Service, and Obedience, throughout all Ages. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

'It may be convenient, before you proceed any farther, to read and meditate on ſuch *Portions* of *Scripture* as you find your ſelf moſt affected with; or to conſider the *Nature* and *Attributes* of God; or the *Fall* and *miſerable State* of *Man*, and his *Redemption* by Jeſus Chriſt; or to meditate on ſuch *particular Duties* as you find your ſelf to have been defective in;

'in; or on the *Rewards* promiſed to 'good Men, and on the *Puniſhments* de-'nounced againſt the Wicked, as thoſe 'Things are laid down in the *Holy Scri-'ptures*, which are our *only infallible 'Guide*; on which Occaſion, the Book, 'entituled, *The Chriſtian Inſtitutes*, or, '*the ſincere Word of God*, will be very 'uſeful, it containing the whole Faith 'and Duty of a Chriſtian, digeſted un-'der proper Heads, and delivered in the 'Words of Scripture, ſo that the Rea-'der may find there together thoſe 'Scriptures which may concern any 'Article of Faith, or particular Duty, 'together with the Scripture-Motives 'for the Practice thereof. After the 'devout Chriſtian has ſpent ſome lit-'tle Time in Reading and Meditation, 'as aforeſaid, he may uſe the following 'Prayers.

## *A Prayer conſiſting of Petitions for the Virtues of a Chriſtian Life.*

### I.

MOST merciful and gracious God, who of thy great Goodneſs didſt give thy Son Jeſus Chriſt to take upon him our Nature, and to humble himſelf to Death, even the Death of the Croſs;

I beſeech thee, by his infinite Condeſcenſion, by his perfect Obedience, and by his meritorious Sufferings; not only to pardon my paſt Sins, but to endue me with Power and Strength to reſiſt them for the Time to come.

Repleniſh me with ſuch ſupernatural Gifts and Graces of the Holy Spirit, as may enable me not only to act conformably to the Light of my own Mind, but make me readily obey thy heavenly Motions, and conſtantly follow the Precepts of the Holy Scriptures.

Give me a zealous Senſe of Piety towards thee, my great Lord and Sovereign, and a due

due Regard to all thy Sacred and Divine Truths.

Let me reverence thy Word and Worſhip, and all Things and Perſons dedicated, and devoted to thy peculiar Service.

Let me ſubmit to all the Afflictions thou ſhalt think fit to lay upon me, with Patience, and with Meekneſs.

Let me truſt to thy Providence, to ſupply me under all Dangers and Neceſſities.

And let me thankfully acknowledge thy Bounty for all thoſe good Things, which thou ſo freely haſt beſtowed upon me.

## II.

Give me, O Lord, that *Divine Wiſdom*, which propoſes the Pleaſing thee, as the End and Aim of all my Actions; and which directs to all thoſe Means which thou haſt graciouſly eſtabliſhed for the working out my Salvation.

That my precious Time may not be employed in hunting after Trifles; that my natural Talents may not be buried and drowned in brutiſh Senſuality; that my

my Study may not be Vanity, nor my Labour Folly; but that framing a right Judgment in all Things, I may fix my Mind upon thoſe Pleaſures which are at thy Right Hand, which are permanent and durable.

And that the great Care and Buſineſs of my Life may be to obtain thy Favour, who art the Sovereign Good of my Soul, and who only canſt ſatisfie all my Deſires.

To this End, inure me to ſpiritual Objects by conſtant and fervent Prayer, by entertaining my Thoughts with pious Meditations, by reading and hearing thy holy Word with Reverence and Attention, and by frequently approaching thy Altar with Humility and Devotion.

And above all, let a conſtant *Fear* of offending thee, my God, put me upon my Guard, and make me watchful amidſt thoſe imminent Dangers and Temptations that ſurround me in this my Pilgrimage on Earth.

Thou, O Lord, who reſiſteſt the Proud, and giveſt Grace to the lowly, endue me with true *Humility*, the Model of which thy only Son traced out for the Practice of the Faithful.

That

That I may have a juſt Senſe of all my Weakneſſes and Follies, and may readily ſubmit to the meaneſt Offices for the Welfare and Benefit of my Fellow-Chriſtians.

That I may reſtrain all immoderate Deſires of Honour, by doing nothing thro' Strife or Vain-glory; and that I may never exalt my ſelf upon the Account of any Advantage I enjoy of Body or Mind above others, by remembring that it is not the Effect of my Merit, but of thy infinite Goodneſs, and diſtinguiſhing Mercy.

Oh! deliver me from the Slavery and Dominion of Pride, which threw Angels from Heaven, and drove Man out of Paradiſe, which produces ſo much Evil and Torment where-ever it reſides, and which, above all, is ſo hateful in thy Sight.

## III.

Grant, O Lord, that I may *love* thee above all Things, who art infinitely Perfect in thy own Nature.

That I may deſire thee above all Things, who art full of Mercy and Compaſſion towards the Children of Men.

Who

Who is there in Heaven but thee? And who upon Earth that I can deſire in Compariſon of thee? As the Hart thirſteth after the Water-Brooks, ſo let my Soul long after thee, O God.

Let the Allurements of the World, and the Enjoyments of Senſe, appear as trifling Entertainments, in Compariſon of the Pleaſure and Happineſs of ſerving thee, and doing Good.

Let the Difficulties and Dangers which I meet with in the Way of my Duty, be ſo far from Diſcouraging me, that they may excite my Zeal, increaſe my Reſolution, and ſerve only to make the Pleaſure of Loving thee more intenſe and perfect.

Let the divine Flame of thy Love burn ſo bright in my Soul, that it may free my Mind from all vile Affections, and may influence all my Actions; ſo that I may carefully obſerve all thy holy Laws, and farther evidence its Certainty, by diligently conſulting the temporal and ſpiritual Happineſs of my Neighbour.

O, let it ſuppreſs all the bitter Effects of Envy, that I may compaſſionate the Misfortunes of others, and rejoice in all good

Things

Things thou art pleaſed to beſtow upon them.

That I may be tender of my Neighbour's Reputation, and never expoſe it to raſh Cenſures, nor diminiſh it by the Relation of his real Infirmities.

That I may guard my Heart from ſecretly repining at his Proſperity, or triumphing in his Calamity.

That I may ſet a Watch upon the Door of my Lips; that I may ſpeak no Evil concerning him, nor utter any Words of Detraction.

That it may quiet and appeaſe the furious Boiling of Anger in my Mind, by making me patient and meek under all Provocations, by diſpoſing me to forgive Offences, and never to return any injurious Treatment.

That it may conquer worldly Sorrow, which worketh Death, by a comfortable Expectation of future Happineſs.

That it may expel Malice, by doing Good; that it may ſtrengthen my Weakneſs by Fortitude; cure my Deſpair, by Hope; my Liſtleſneſs, by ſpiritual Exerciſes; and reſtrain the Wanderings of my Mind towards unlawful Things, by making

me

me ſtedfaſt and unmoveable in the Work of the Lord.

## IV.

Give me, O Lord, a ſober *Abſtinence*, that I may know how to abound, and how to want.

That my Appetites may be kept under ſtrict Government, ſince the Indulging of them by our firſt Parents brought Death into the World.

That they may always obſerve their due Bounds, by adminiſtring to the Neceſſities of Life, and never ſupport and encourage Luxury, which is boundleſs and infinite, which brings forth Scurrility and Immodeſty, which depreſſes the Soul, and renders it unapt for ſpiritual Enjoyments.

Make me ſo mindful of that ſtrict Account I muſt give of all my Actions, at the dreadful Tribunal Seat, that it may mortifie all Inclinations and Temptation to ſinful Pleaſures.

And ſtir me up to zeal and diligence in Performing all thoſe Things which are accepta-

acceptable in thy Sight, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

*This may be added, with regard to the receiving the Holy Sacrament.*

In order to attain theſe bleſſed Ends, O Lord, I approach thy Holy Table, that I may grow in Grace, and may be enabled to imitate the Suffering Virtues of the crucified Jeſus.

Grant therefore, moſt merciful God, that the receiving the Symbols of his Body and Blood, which I am now about to partake of, may by the Grace and Efficacy of his Spirit, conform me to his Divine Image, and make me ſtedfaſt in Serving thee, till thou takeſt me finally to enjoy thee, thro' Jeſus Chriſt my Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*



## *Some ſhort Prayers, proper to be uſed for the enforcing our Holy Reſolutions, and for the Aſſiſtance of God's Grace, to enable us to perform them.*

### I.

O Lord Jeſu! I give thee my Body, my Soul, my Subſtance, my Friends, my Liberty, and my Life; Diſpoſe of me, and of all that is mine, as it ſeemeth beſt to thee, and to the Glory of thy Holy Name. *Amen.*

### II.

I am not now mine, but thine; therefore claim me as thy Right; keep me as thy Charge, and love me as thy Child: Fight for me when I am aſſaulted; heal me when I am wounded; and revive me when I am fainting, for Chriſt Jeſus's ſake. *Amen.*

### III.

O God, who knoweſt us to be ſet in the

the midſt of ſo many and great Dangers, that by Reaſon of the Weakneſs of our Nature we cannot always ſtand upright; look, I beſeech thee, with Pity and Compaſſion, upon my Frailties and Infirmities; and grant me ſuch Health of Body, and Soundneſs of Mind, that both in Soul and Body I may evermore ſerve thee with all my Strength and Might, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## IV.

Grant me, O gracious Lord, a pure Intention of Heart, and a ſtedfaſt Reſolution to deſpiſe all Vanity; to fight the Battles of the Lord manfully againſt the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil; to ſpend my Time religiouſly and uſefully; to walk always as in thy Preſence; to preſerve my Body and Soul in Holineſs, fit for the Habitation of the Spirit of God. *Amen.*

## V.

O Lord, increaſe in me Faith and Devotion; replenish my Heart with all Goodneſs, and [illegible] Mercy keep me

in

in the ſame. Give me a peaceable Spirit, and a quiet Life; a ſober, patient Underſtanding, and religious Heart; a Soul full of Devotion to do thee Service; and do thou make my Services acceptable to thee while I live, and my Soul ready for thee when I die. *Amen.*

## VI.

O Lord, make me humble to my Superiors, and friendly to my Equals; thankful to my Benefactors; kind to my Relations, and loving and charitable to all Men, even my very Enemies. Make me gentle, and eaſie to be entreated, ſlow to Anger, and readily admoniſhed; fully prepared and throughly furniſhed for every good Word and Work. *Amen.*

## VII.

O Lord, give me ſpiritual Wiſdom, that I may diſcern what is pleaſing to thee, and follow what belongs unto my Peace; and let the Knowledge and Fear of God, and of Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, be my Guide and my Portion all the Days of my Life. *Amen.*

VIII.

VIII.

To the King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible, and only wise God, who is the ever-blessed and adorable Trinity, be all Honour and Glory, Thanksgiving and Praise, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for the whole State of Mankind.*

ACCEPT, O Lord, of my Prayers and Intercessions, as a Testimony of my Charity for the whole Race of Mankind.

Enlighten the dark Corners of the Earth with the bright Sun-shine of thy glorious Gospel; and succeed the pious Designs of all those that endeavour the Propagation of the Kingdom of thy Son; that thy Way may be known upon Earth, and thy saving Health among all Nations.

Let thy continual Pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and forasmuch as it cannot continue in Safety without thy Suc-

Succour, preſerve it evermore by thy Help and Goodneſs.

Endue the Governours and Paſtors of it with Courage and Reſo lution to preſerve thoſe ſacred Rights thou haſt committed to their Truſt; with Zeal and Diligence in promoting ſolid and ſubſtantial Piety; and with a conſcientious Diſcharge of all the important Duties of their Holy Function.

Let all ſecular Magiſtrates ſtudy to govern their People with Truth and Juſtice; and to preſerve them in Wealth, Peace, and Godlineſs.

Bleſs our moſt gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, our gracious Queen *CAROLINE*, the Royal Iſſue, and the reſt of the Royal Family, with the Dew of thy heavenly Spirit; that they ever truſting in thy Goodneſs, protected by thy Power, and crowned with thy gracious and endleſs Favour, may continue before thee in Health, Peace, Joy, and Honour, a long and happy Life upon Earth, and after Death obtain everlaſting Life and Glory in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Let War and Bloodſhed ceaſe among

Chriſtian Princes, and give to all Nations Unity, Peace, and Concord.

Bleſs all the People of this Land, with Health, Peace, and Plenty; and teach them to uſe ſuch thy Bleſſings with Sobriety, Gratitude, and Charity.

Make all Chriſtians ſincerely to practiſe the Religion they profeſs; and inſpire them with uniting Principles, and charitable Hearts; that they may love one another, and thereby convince the World they are thy Diſciples.

Be merciful to all my Friends, Relations, and Acquaintance; thoſe that are in Sin, convert them; thoſe that are in Grace, confirm and ſtrengthen them; thoſe that are in Adverſity, comfort and ſupport them; and thoſe that are in Proſperity, ſuffer them not to forget thee.

Forgive all my Enemies; make them eaſy and ready to be reconciled; and give them Repentance and better Minds.

Be gracious to all that are in Affliction and Diſtreſs; that labour under the Streights of Poverty; that ſuffer Perſecution for the Teſtimony of a good Conſcience; that mourn under Captivity or Baniſhment, or any unjuſt Oppreſſion; that

that are exerciſed with bodily Pains and Diſeaſes; that are ſolicited with ſtrong Temptations, or are dejected with Terrors and Troubles of Mind.

Pity and relieve their ſeveral Neceſſities; give them Patience under all their Sufferings, and in thy due Time, deliver them according to thy great Mercy.

Aſſiſt thoſe that are at the Point of Death; and when their Strength fails, let not their Faith fail; even in Death enable them to truſt in thee. Grant this, O merciful God, for the Merits of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

*When this Interceſſion is uſed on Sacrament Days, what follows may be added.*

Shed thy particular Grace and Benidiction upon all thoſe who are Partakers of the Holy Communion this Day, in any Part of thy Church.

That they may perſevere in their holy Purpoſes and Reſolutions, and may conform themſelves to the Model of their crucified Saviour.

And may the Pattern of his Piety and Devotion, of his Humility and Charity,

of his Meekneſs and patient Suffering, be ſo lively imprinted upon all our Minds, that we may tranſcribe his Example in our Lives and Converſations.

That thus commemorating his All-ſufficient Sacrifice upon Earth, we may receive the everlaſting Benefit of it in thy heavenly Kingdom, and bleſs and praiſe thee for it to all Eternity. *Amen.*

## *A General Thankſgiving.*



Moſt glorious and eternal Lord God, thou art the great Creator of Heaven and Earth, and the Source and Fountain of all Good; look graciouſly upon thy Servant, who am come into thy Preſence, to offer up the humble Tribute of my unfeigned Praiſes to thy Divine Majeſty, from a Heart truly mov'd with a Senſe of thy infinite and unſpeakable Goodneſs.

I bleſs thee, O Lord, for creating me at firſt out of nothing, for cauſing me to be born of Chriſtian Parents, and for admitting me by holy Baptiſm into the Communion

munion of thy Church; for all the Helps and Aſſiſtances of thy Grace, which I have ſince had, to enable me in any Meaſure to perform the Engagements that were then made on my Behalf, for implanting in my Mind an early Fear of offending thee, and a great Deſire of pleaſing thee; for whatever Sin I have at any time eſcaped, and whatever Good I have done through the whole Courſe of my Life.

I bleſs thee, O Lord, for all thy Patience and Forbearance towards me; for ſparing me ſo long, and giving me ſo large a Space for Repentance; for all the Motions of thy good Spirit, and the Checks and Reſtraints of my own Conſcience; for the many Opportunities thou haſt given me of ſerving thee, and calling upon thy Name, *particularly, O Lord, for thoſe of this Day*, and for all other the Means of Grace, and for the Hopes of Glory; but above all, I magnifie, I bleſs, I adore thy great and glorious Name, for ſending thy Son into the World, to die for the Redemption of me and all Mankind.

I bleſs thee likewiſe, O Lord, for all the temporal Mercies, which I have received from thy moſt bountiful Hand; for

that meaſure of Health I have enjoyed; for the many Friends and Relations thou haſt given me; for delivering me from the great Calamities I have juſtly deſerved, and with which many of thy beſt and deareſt Servants have been viſited. 'Tis to thy Goodneſs I aſcribe it, that I have the Uſe of my Senſes, and of my Reaſon; that I am not languiſhing upon a Bed of Sickneſs, nor groaning under the ſharpeſt Pains; that I am not pining with Want, nor forc'd to beg my daily Bread, but am competently provided for, and ſee *my* * *dear Wife and Children*, and many other Comforts, round about me. 'Tis from thee alone, O Lord, my Affairs do in any Meaſure proſper, or any the leaſt of my Undertakings ſucceed; 'tis thy Wiſdom that directs me, thy Truth that inſtructs me, and thy Power that at all times preſerves me.

* *This is to be varied according to every Perſon's Condition.*

More particularly, O Lord, I deſire to bleſs and praiſe thy holy Name for (*here may be mentioned any other Particulars, Mercies, or Deliverances.*)

And now, O Lord, what Returns ſhall I, that am a poor Sinner, make for all theſe mar-

marvellous Inſtances of thy Mercy and loving Kindneſs? O let my Tongue be daily ſounding forth thy Praiſes; and grant that I may manifeſt the Sincerity of thoſe Praiſes, by a holy Life and Converſation; by walking before thee in all Godlineſs and Honeſty; by ſerving thee faithfully, and making a right Uſe of all thoſe Bleſſings thou beſtoweſt on me; by ſtudying to pleaſe thee in all Things, and doing every thing that becomes the Servant of ſo kind and bountiful a Maſter.

O let me never behave my ſelf in ſo ungrateful a manner, as to provoke thee to withdraw thy Mercies from me; but give me ſuch a lively Senſe of thy loving Kindneſs, as may excite my Thankfulneſs, and engage me to pay a willing and cheerful Obedience to thy Commandments; that devoting my ſelf entirely to thy Service, I may daily grow in Grace, and be continually advancing to new Degrees of thy Favour; that ſo theſe Bleſſings here, may be an Earneſt of thy future Mercies; which I beſeech thee to grant me, for the ſake of thy beloved Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; to whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Ghoſt, be aſcribed, as is moſt due, all

Honour, Glory, Power, Thankſgiving and Praiſe, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

## *A concluding Prayer.*

BLeſſed be thy Name, O Lord, for the Opportunity thou haſt this Day vouchſafed me of humbling my ſelf before thee. Pardon, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, all my Failings and Defects at this Time, the Wandrings of my Prayers, the Coldneſs of my Affections, and the Diſproportion of my Repentance to the Heinouſneſs of thoſe Sins which I have committed. O let thy Mercy and Goodneſs ſupply what is wanting in me, and be thou graciouſly pleas'd to pity my Weakneſſes, and forgive my Infirmities, through the Merits and for the Sake of thy beloved Son, and my alone Saviour Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous; to whom with Thee, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all Honour and Glory aſcribed, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

# AN OFFICE FOR THE SICK.

*A Prayer at the Beginning of any Sickneſs, which may be alſo uſed during its Continuance.*

O Almighty God and merciful Father, whoſe never-failing Providence ordereth all Things both in Heaven and Earth; I deſire, with the profoundeſt Reverence, to humble my ſelf before thee, acknowledging that thou, even in thy ſevereſt Diſpen-

ſations, haſt kind Intentions, and gracious Deſigns towards us; behold me thy poor Servant, upon whom thou haſt been pleaſed to lay thy afflicting Hand; ſanctify, I beſeech thee, this thy Fatherly Correction to me, and grant that I may receive it with all the Patience and Submiſſion of a dutiful Child. Suffer me not, O Lord, to murmur or repine under any Diſpenſations of thy Providence; but let all that is afflictive to me, be a Means to wean me from the World; to bring me nearer to thy Self; and to purge away all that Droſs and Defilement which my Soul has contracted in this ſinful Life. I know, O Lord, that thy Judgments are right, and that thou of thy Goodneſs haſt cauſed me to be troubled: O give me ſuch a Meaſure of Grace and Patience, as may enable me chearfully and willingly to ſubmit my Will to thine.

I acknowledge, O Lord, that I have juſtly deſerved to be very ſeverely dealt with by thee; for notwithſtanding all the gentle Methods which thou haſt uſed towards me, I have not loved thee as I ought to do; but in the Days of Health and Proſperity have forgotten thee, my God, and turned

aſide

aſide after Vanity and Folly; but, O merciful Father, let not my Sins provoke thee to turn away thy Face from me thy Servant, now ſeeking unto thee in this Time of my Trouble; ſhut not up the Bowels of thy tender Compaſſions from me; but for the Merits and Interceſſion of thy beloved Son, pardon all my Sins, the proper Cauſes of all my Sorrows, and vouchſafe, I beſeech thee, for his Sake, to be reconciled unto me. O ſuffer me not to ſink under the heavy Load and Burden of my Tranſgreſſions, but ſtretch forth thy helping Hand to ſave and deliver me; and ſay unto my Soul, I am thy Salvation.

O Lord, ſupport me under all my Pain, Weakneſſes, and Infirmities; ſtrengthen my Faith, enlarge my Hopes, increaſe my Charity, and perfect my Repentance. Make thou my Bed in my Sickneſs, and lay not more upon me than thou wilt enable me to bear; give a Bleſſing to the Means that ſhall be uſed for my Recovery; and if it be thy good Pleaſure, reſtore me to my former Health, that I may lead the Reſidue of my Life in thy Fear, and to thy Glory: But if thou haſt determined that this Sickneſs ſhall be unto Death; grant,

O merciful Father, that the more the outward Man decayeth, ſo much the more I may find the inner Man ſtrengthened and renewed with thy Grace and Holy Spirit. O give me Grace ſo to take thy Viſitation, that after this painful Life ended, I may dwell with thee in Life everlaſting, thro' the Merits and Mediation of Jeſus Chriſt, my dear and only Saviour. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *A ſhort Prayer to be uſed by a ſick Perſon, every Time he takes any Phyſick.*

O Lord, without whom all our Endeavours are but vain, give thy Bleſſing to the Means now uſed for my Recovery, and (if it be thy bleſſed Will) make them ſo effectual for that End, that I may live and be an Inſtrument of thy Glory, and better prepared for the Coming of my dear Lord. *Amen.*

*Prayers*

## *Prayers for Repentance in Sickneſs.*

### I.

RIGHTEOUS art thou, O God, in all thoſe Pains and Sorrows which thou haſt brought upon me; I receive my Sickneſs as the Chaſtiſement of a Sinner; and am willing to bear Chaſtiſement for my Sins, that I may thereby be reclaimed from them.

But, O Lord, correct me not in thine Anger, leſt thou bring me to nothing; judge me not according as my Sins have deſerved, but as my Weakneſs can bear, and as thy Compaſſions are wont to mitigate thy Judgments. And Oh! let my Sickneſs work in me a true Repentance, and prove a happy Means to reclaim me perfectly from all the Sins which I have formerly committed, not to occaſion my committing more; and to confer that Reſt and Peace upon my Soul, which is now denied to my Body. All which I humbly beg for our dear Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt's Sake. *Amen.*

II.

II.

Thou ſmiteſt me, O gracious Lord, that thou may'ſt cure me; and puniſheſt me, that thou may'ſt amend and reclaim me. My Sins juſtly deſerved theſe Sorrows; and I know aſſuredly, thou wilt bring infinitely worſe upon me, unleſs I prevent the ſame by a timely and true Repentance.

Help me therefore, O my God, to ſearch out my Sins, and to diſcover every accurſed Thing; and when I ſee them, let me entirely renounce them all. Let thy Love cauſe me to hate every evil Way, and make my Reſolutions againſt Sin honeſt and ſincere, and my Care to fulfil the ſame vigilant and patient. If thou ſhalt be pleaſed to continue me any longer in this World, grant that all the Remainder of my Days may be one continued Courſe of reforming my paſt Errors, and of devoting my ſelf entirely to thy Service.

Lord, cure my Folly by this my Miſery, and teach me, by the Loſs of my bodily Eaſe, to purchaſe the Bleſſing of true Repentance, and the comfortable Hopes of thy merciful Acceptance thereof, through the

the Merits of our dear Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

" To make his Confeſſions and other " Acts of Repentance with great Sure- " neſs and Satisfaction to himſelf, the ſick " Perſon muſt firſt diſcover his Sins, by " examining himſelf, and trying his Ways " by God's Commandments, and enqui- " ring into the State of his Soul, to ſee " whether he is already ſafe within the " Terms of Pardon, or what he wants to " make him ſo. This is a Work for all " Men at all Times, who would live with " Safety, or die with Peace; but eſpecial- " ly for ſick and dying Perſons, who not " only ought, but alſo more commonly " are wont to make it their earneſt Deſire " and Care; and in their Performance of " this important Duty of *Self Examina-* " *tion*, they will find *Aſſiſtance* in the " *Office* of *Humiliation*.

## *A Prayer for Truſt in God in Sickneſs.*

O Almighty God, our only Help in Time of Trouble, look with Pity and Compaſſion upon me, now under thy afflicting Hand. Be thou my Stay and Confidence under all my Sorrows and Afflictions, and ſuffer me not to ſink under the Weight of them, through any Dejection, or Faintneſs of Spirit.

Give me ſuch an entire Truſt and Confidence in thy Mercy, through the Merits of my dear Redeemer, that I may caſt all my Care upon thee, and with Chearfulneſs commit my ſelf into thy Hands, aſſuredly believing that all Things ſhall work together for good to them that love thee: And, O Lord, grant that I may be found ſuch an one, as through thy great Mercy, may be entituled to the Benefit of thy gracious Promiſes. Make me willing and ready to yield to thy Wiſdom, and to prefer thy Will before my own; to be contented to bear what thou pleaſeſt, and to be eaſed of my Burden in thy Time, which is always beſt

beſt. But, O Lord, however thou art pleaſed to deal with my Body, yet ſpare my Soul, I beſeech thee, and deliver it from the bitter Pains of Eternal Death. O take me not out of this World, till thou art reconciled unto me, and haſt fitted me in ſome Meaſure for thy heavenly Kingdom. Grant, O Lord, that whether I live, I may live unto thee; or whether I die, I may die unto thee, ſo that living and dying I may be thine, through Jeſus Chriſt my ever bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

## *Prayers of ſick or dying Perſons, for truſting God with their Wives and Children.*

O Lord, if thou ſeeſt fit to call me to thy ſelf by this Sickneſs; let my dear Wife and Children, and all who (under thee) depend on me, betake themſelves to thee. I humbly beg leave to commend them to thy Mercy; for I know thou art the Helper of the Friendleſs, the Father of the Fatherleſs, and the Husband

Husband of the Widow; and therefore my Heart is at Eaſe, when I conſider that I leave them in thy Hands, where they are infinitely ſafer, and will be infinitely happier, than ever they could be in mine, or in any other but in thine. And I beg that they may ever have thy good Providence for their Support and Stay in this World, and thy Peace and Love in that which is to come. *Amen.*

## II.

When I am gone, O my dear God, let not thoſe I leave behind me, be deſtitute of thy Care; but as thou art their Father, be thou graciouſly pleaſed to provide for all their Wants, and protect them from all Wrongs. Supply to them, by thy kind Providence, whatever they ſhall want of outward Helps.

Enable them, O Lord, evermore to place their Love and Delight in thee, to fix their Truſt and Confidence in thy Mercy, and to ſubmit to all thy Diſpenſations concerning them; for then I know, that though they ſhould have none to counſel them, where they are unskilful; nor to right them,

them, where they may be wrong'd; yet thy Spirit will be their Guide, and thy Bleſſing will make up all. Oh! that thy Will and Honour may always be their Care, that ſo their Needs and Welfare may be always thine: Keep them from doing any Thing that may forfeit thy Fatherly Care and good Providence, and train them up, good Lord, ſtedfaſtly in thy Fear; that being preſerved from all the Evils and Temptations of this World, they may at laſt be brought in Safety to the unſpeakable Joys of that which is far better, even the Fruition of thy bleſſed Self, for the Sake of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer under the Continuance of Sickneſs.*

O Merciful and Righteous God, the Sovereign Lord of Life and Death, our only Help in time of Trouble; I thy poor Creature, lying upon the Bed of Sickneſs, fly unto thee for Succour. I deſire, O Lord, hum-

humbly to accept of this thy Viſitation, and moſt earneſtly beſeech thee to enable me to bear it with ſuch Patience and Submiſſion, as becomes a Creature and a Sinner: And, O merciful Father, who deſigneſt not the Ruin, but the Amendment of thoſe whom thou ſcourgeſt, I beſeech thee to ſanctify all my Afflictions to me; and grant that this Sickneſs of my Body may be a Means of Health to my Soul, and inſpiring me with Reſolutions never more to depart from thee.

To that End, O Lord, make me diligent in Searching my Heart; and, O do thou enable me to diſcover every Thing hateful in thy Sight; and, on my true and ſincere Repentance, I beſeech thee, remove thine Anger from me. Heal my Soul, O Lord, which has greatly ſinned againſt thee; and then (if it be thy bleſſed Will) heal my Body alſo. Reſtore the Voice of Joy and Health unto my Dwelling, that I may live to praiſe thee, and be an Inſtrument of thy Glory, by doing Good in my Generation. But if, in thy great Wiſdom, thou haſt otherwiſe determined, and ſeeſt it beſt to take me out of this World; Oh fit and

pre-

prepare me for that Hour, and deliver me not, I beſeech thee, into the bitter Pains of eternal Death. Thou knoweſt the Secrets of my Heart, O ſhut not up thy merciful Ears to my Prayers; but hear me, O Lord, moſt Holy; O God, moſt mighty; O holy and merciful Saviour, thou moſt worthy Judge Eternal, ſuffer me not, at my laſt Hour, for any Pains of Death to fall from thee. And O thou tender and compaſſionate Lover of Souls, I moſt earneſtly beſeech thee, that when the Time appointed for my great Change ſhall come, thou wilt have Mercy on me, and deliver me, and ſtrengthen me in my Conflict; that thou wilt ſupport me in my dying Agonies, and defend me from the Enemy, and from his Terrors, and ſhew me one Glympſe of the Light of thy Countenance, that I may know, and be aſſured, that thou art perfectly at Peace with me; and that thou wilt receive me into the bleſſed Company of Saints and Angels in thy heavenly Habitation, through Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon under any grievous Pains.*



God, our Refuge and Strength, who art a preſent Help in time of Trouble; O look graciouſly upon me, I moſt earneſtly beſeech thee; and (if it be thy bleſſed Will) ſend me Eaſe and Comfort in this Time of my Diſtreſs. I acknowledge, O Lord, the Juſtice of thy Dealings towards me. I confeſs, that I have deſerved much greater Pains than I now feel: O let me then never murmur or repine under any Affliction thou ſeeſt fit to lay upon me. Give me a meek and quiet Submiſſion to thy Will, that I may wait with Patience till thou ſeeſt fit to deliver me. Suffer not the Extremity of my Pains to tranſport me into any raſh or unbecoming Expreſſions, or cauſe me to entertain a hard Thought of thy Providence; but whatever Evils or Sorrows I may feel, let me ſtill love thee, and believe thee to be a kind and merciful Father, even whilſt thou art ſmiting and correcting me.

And,

And, O bleſſed Lord, that I may be enabled ſo to do, be pleaſed, in thy great Mercy, to ſtrengthen and ſupport me with the Conſolations of thy holy Spirit, and lay not more upon me than thou wilt enable me to bear. I know thou art able to deliver me, and therefore in thee do I put my Truſt. Sanctify this Affliction to me, that it may produce in me the Fruits of a true and ſincere Repentance.

O Lord, hear me; O Lord, help me, for thy Mercies ſake in Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen. Amen.*

## *A Prayer to be uſed by a Sick Perſon, when he finds any Abatement of his Diſtemper.*

O Father of Mercies, and God of all Comfort; who haſt vouchſafed to grant me ſome eaſe, and to abate the Fury of my preſent Diſtemper; accept, I humbly pray thee, of my unfeigned Thanks for this, and all thy other Mercies beſtowed upon me.

Bleſſed

Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, O Lord, that I have Strength to praiſe Thee; that my Senſes and Underſtanding are preſerved entire; and though I am brought very low, I am not without Hopes, that thou wilt yet raiſe me up. Oh! perfect (if it be thy bleſſed Will) what thou haſt begun in me; and forſake not, I beſeech thee, the Works of thy own Hands. Repair all the Decays in my outward Man, and let my Mind be alſo endued with greater Strength and Abilities to do thee Service, and with ſtronger Deſires and Reſolutions of loving and obeying thee.

Viſit me, O Lord, with thy heavenly Conſolations; fill me with comfortable Thoughts of thy Love, and of that tender compaſſionate Care which our Lord Jeſus takes of all his afflicted Servants. Give me ſtill a more perfect Submiſſion to thy Will, that without any Murmuring or Repining I may wait upon thee, till thou ſeeſt fit to finiſh my Recovery: And as my Strength increaſes, ſo let my Reſolutions grow ſtronger, of ſerving thee faithfully all the Remainder of my Life; for which End, I implore the Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, through Jeſus Chriſt; to whom

whom with thee, O Father, and the ever bleſſed Spirit, be all Honour, Glory, Love, Service, and Obedience, by me and all thy Creatures, for evermore. *Amen.*

## *Prayers to be uſed by one, or more, in a Family, in the Preſence of a ſick Perſon; any of which may be alſo uſed by a Perſon in Private, in behalf of ſick Friends; and may be added to the Morning and Evening Prayers in a Family.*

*When theſe Prayers are uſed by one Perſon only, he muſt uſe* I *inſtead of* We. *The Words* Him, He, His, *are printed in a different Character, that if the ſick Perſon be of the other Sex,* Him, *and* His, *may be more readily changed for* Her, He *for* She.

O Almighty God, the Help of all that put their Truſt in thee, the Relief of the Needy, the Sovereign Good of all Mankind; hear the

Prayers we now offer unto thy Divine Majeſty, in the Behalf of thy Servant now lying upon the Bed of Sickneſs. Look upon *him*, we pray thee, with thy tendereſt Pity and Compaſſion, and be thou gracious and favourable unto *him*, according to the Neceſſity of *his* Caſe, and according to the Multitude of thy tender Mercies in Chriſt Jeſus.

In Submiſſion to thy moſt wiſe Diſpoſal of Things, we beſeech thee to abate *his* Diſtemper, to eaſe *his* Pains, and reſtore *him*, in thy due Time, to *his* former Health and Strength, that *he* may have a longer Time to work out *his* Salvation, and be more uſeful in *his* Station, and do more Good in *his* Generation: But however thou ſhalt be pleaſed to deal with *him*, as to the Concerns of *his* Body; yet, O Lord, let *his* Soul be ever precious in thy Sight; waſh and cleanſe it, we beſeech thee, in the Blood of thy dear Son, that it may be delivered from all the Defilements it hath contracted in this ſinful Life, and be preſented pure and ſpotleſs before the Throne of Grace.

Oh! give *him* a right Diſcerning of the Things which belong to *his* Peace, and let them never be hid from *his* Eyes. En-

Enable *him* to finiſh the great Work *he* has to do, give *him* a true and unfeigned Repentance of all *his* Sins, and a firm Reliance on thy gracious Promiſes; and grant that *he* may find that Peace of God, which paſſes all Underſtanding.

Fit *him*, O Lord, for living and dying, and for whatever, in thy wiſe and righteous Providence, thou haſt deſigned for *him*. And if thou haſt determined, that this Sickneſs ſhall be a Sickneſs unto Death, and this Viſitation *his* laſt Viſitation, prepare *him*, O merciful God, by thy Grace, for thy bleſſed Self, and grant *him* a ſafe and comfortable Paſſage out of this World, to that which is infinitely better, through the Merits and Mediation of thy bleſſed Son, our only Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

O God the Father of Heaven,
Have Mercy upon *him*,
Keep and defend *him*.
O God the Son, Redeemer of the World,
Have Mercy upon *him*,
Save *him* and deliver *him*.

O God the Holy Ghoſt, proceeding from the Father and the Son,
Have Mercy upon *him*,
Strengthen and comfort *him*.
O holy, bleſſed, and glorious Trinity,
Have Mercy upon *him*.

Remember not, Lord, *his* Offences, nor call to Mind the Offences of *his* Fore-Fathers; but ſpare *him*, good Lord, ſpare this thy Servant, whom thou haſt redeemed with thy moſt precious Blood, and be not angry with *him* for ever.

*Spare* him *good Lord*.

From thy Wrath and heavy Indignation; from the Fear of Death; from the Guilt and Burden of *his* Sins; and from the dreadful Sentence of the laſt Judgment,

*Good Lord deliver* him.

From the Sting and Terrors of Conſcience; from Diſtruſt or Deſpair; from Anguiſh or Agony, that may any way withdraw *his* Mind from thee,

*Good Lord deliver* him.

From the bitter Pangs of Eternal Death; from the Powers of Darkneſs; and from the Illuſions and Aſſaults of our ghoſtly Enemy,

*Good Lord deliver* him.

By thy manifold and great Mercies; by the manifold and great Merits of Jeſus Chriſt thy Son; by his Agony and bloody Sweat; by his ſtrong Crying and Tears; by his bitter Croſs and Paſſion; by his glorious Reſurrection and Aſcenſion; by his effectual and moſt acceptable Interceſſion; and by the Graces and Comforts of thy Holy Spirit,

*Good Lord deliver* him.

In the Time of Extremity; in *his* laſt and greateſt Need; in the Hour of Death, and in the Day of Judgment,

*Good Lord deliver* him.

We Sinners do beſeech thee to hear us, O Lord God; that it may pleaſe thee to aſſwage *his* Pains; and give *him* Patience to bear *his* Sickneſs; and when thou ſhalt call *him* Home, give *him* a quiet and joyful Departure:

*We beſeech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may pleaſe thee to make *him* Partaker of all thy Mercies and Promiſes in Chriſt Jeſus:

*We beſeech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may pleaſe thee, after this Life, to beſtow upon *him* the State of Joy, Bliſs,

and Happineſs, with all thy bleſſed Saints in thy heavenly Kingdom:

*We beſeech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Son of God, we beſeech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takeſt away the Sins of the World,

*Grant* him *thy Peace.*

O Lamb of God, that takeſt away the Sins of the World,

*Hear our Prayers, and have Mercy upon* him.

## III.

*This is to be uſed when there appears little Hopes of Recovery.*

O Lord, raiſe up thy Power, and come among us, and with great Might ſuccour thy poor Servant now languiſhing under great Weakneſs of Body; look with an Eye of Mercy upon *him*, who, in Appearance, is now drawing near the Time of *his* Diſſolution: Perfect, O Lord, *his* Repentance, and make it effectual through the Blood of the ever-bleſſed Jeſus; and for Chriſt's ſake, pardon all the Errors of *his* paſt Life, that *he* may come to *his* great Change without Guilt, and feel its near Approach without Fear and Terror. O give *him* a firm and well-grounded Aſſurance,

rance, that thou art fully reconciled unto *him*; and now *he* is entring into the Valley of the Shadow of Death, take Care of *him*, and carry *him* through that dark Paſſage, into the bright Regions of eternal Bliſs: But whether thou ſeeſt it fit to give *him* ſuch a Foretaſte of Happineſs; yet, O merciful God, take *him* not out of this World, before *he* is fitted and prepared; that when *he* goes to meet the Bridegroom, *he* may not find the Door to everlaſting Happineſs ſhut againſt *him*.

O Lord, with thee nothing is impoſſible; if thou wilt, thou canſt even yet raiſe *him* up, and grant *him* a longer Continuance among us; but nevertheleſs, not our Will, but thine be done; we deſire to leave *him* in thy Hands, and commend *him* to thy Mercies, and to the Love and Compaſſion of the Bleſſed Jeſus. O Lord, hear *his* Prayers, and the Prayers of all *his* Friends for *him*; ſupport *him* in *his* dying Agonies; ſtrengthen *him* under all *his* Weakneſſes; viſit *him* with the ſtrong Conſolations of thy Holy Spirit, and receive *him* into the Bleſſed Society of Saints and Angels; there to love, praiſe, and adore thee for ever, through the Merits

of thy beloved Son Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous. *Amen.*

*Our Father*, &c.

## *Ejaculations for ſick and dying Perſons.*

O Bleſſed Lord, who ſcourgeſt every Son whom thou receiveſt; let me not be weary of thy Correction.

Give me ſuch a perfect Submiſſion to thee the Father of Spirits, that this Chaſtiſement may be for my Profit, and that I may thereby be made a Partaker of thy Holineſs.

I confeſs, O Lord, that I have deſerved much greater Puniſhments than I now feel.

O make me chearfully and thankfully to bear my preſent Pains; chaſten me as thou ſeeſt fitting; do with me what thou pleaſeſt here, ſo I may not be condemned with the World hereafter.

O Chriſt, who firſt ſufferedſt many and grievous Things, and then enteredſt into thy Glory; make me ſo to ſuffer with thee, that I may alſo be glorified with thee.

O Lord God moſt Holy, O Lord moſt Mighty, O Holy and moſt Merciful Saviour, deliver me not, I beſeech thee, into the bitter Pains of Eternal Death.

O caſt not off the Bowels of thy tendereſt Compaſſions, but even as a Father pitieth his own Children, ſo be thou merciful unto me thy ſinful, but repenting Servant.

O bleſſed High-Prieſt, who art able to ſave to the uttermoſt them who come unto God by thee; ſave me, I beſeech thee, who have no Hope but in thy Merits and Interceſſion.

Suffer not, O my Redeemer, my Soul, which thou haſt purchaſed with the invaluable Price of thy own Blood, to periſh; but ſay unto me, I am thy Salvation.

O dear Jeſus, who humbledſt thy Self even to the Death of the Croſs for me, let that precious Death of thine ſweeten all the Bitterneſs of mine.

I believe that thou ſhalt come to be my Judge.

I pray thee, therefore, help thy Servant, whom thou haſt redeemed with thy moſt precious Blood.

Make me to be numbered with thy Saints in Glory everlaſting.

O receive me into that Place of Reſt, where all Tears ſhall be wiped from my Eyes; where there ſhall be no more Death, nor Sorrow, nor Crying, nor Pain.

O take me, where I ſhall for ever behold thy Face, and follow the Lamb whitherſoever he goeth.

Into thy Hands I commend my Spirit; for thou haſt redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of Truth.

O Lord, in thee is my Truſt; O caſt not out my Soul.

O Lord, in thee have I truſted, let me never be confounded.

## *A Prayer for a ſick Child.*

O Father of Mercies, and God of all Comfort, our only Help in Time of Need; we fly unto thee for Succour in behalf of this Child, here lying under thy Hand, in great Weakneſs of Body.

Look

Look graciouſly upon it, O Lord; eaſe it, we beſeech thee, of its Pains, and pity it in Extremity.

We know, O Lord, that if thou wilt, thou canſt raiſe it up, and grant it a longer Continuance amongſt us.

O raiſe it up again (if it may pleaſe thee) to grow in Years and Stature, in Wiſdom, and thy Fear, and thereby to comfort its Parents, and to glorifie thee.

We believe, O God, that thou knoweſt beſt what is fit for it and us, and that thou wilt do what is beſt for both: And therefore we humbly reſign its Life to thee, beſeeching thee to have Mercy on us.

But whether it live or die, let it be thine; and either preſerve it to be thy true and faithful Servant here on Earth, or take it to the Bleſſedneſs of thy Children in the Kingdom of Heaven, through the Merits of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*



## *A Thankſgiving after Recovery.*

O Moſt mighty God, and merciful Father, I thy unworthy Servant, whom thou haſt raiſed up from a dangerous Sickneſs, do now preſent my ſelf before thee, acknowledging it to be owing to thy Goodneſs alone, that I am now alive, and have once more an Opportunity of offering up my Prayers and Praiſes at the Throne of Grace. Thou, O Lord, haſt chaſtened and corrected me, but haſt not given me over unto Death: Bleſſed therefore be that Divine Wiſdom, which ſaw this late Affliction ſeaſonable. Bleſſed be that tender Compaſſion, which in the midſt of Wrath remembred Mercy; which made all my Bed in my Sickneſs, paſſed by my Impatience and many Infirmities, and inclined a willing Ear unto my Supplications, when I cried unto thee in the Time of my Diſtreſs: Bleſſed be the powerful Influences of that Grace, which diſpoſed my Heart to Conſideration and Repentance: But above all,

bleſſed

bleſſed for ever be that Power and Goodneſs, which by ſparing me, when I had deſerved to be cut off, has now given me an Opportunity of rectifying the Errors of my paſt Life, and reforming whatſoever is amiſs in me.

O Lord, let not this Goodneſs of thine, nor my own ſerious Purpoſes of better Obedience, ever ſlip out of my Mind; but preſerve me in a conſtant tender Senſe of the great Obligations I lie under, of ſerving thee faithfully all my Days; make me every Day more and more zealous in promoting thy Glory and the Good of my Brethren; in ſtudying to pleaſe thee better than ever I have yet done; and in devoting the Remainder of that Life, which thou haſt given me, to the Service of thee, my gracious Benefactor.

I humbly offer and preſent unto thee my Soul and Body, which thou haſt ſo mercifully preſerved, beſeeching thee to take them into thy Cuſtody. O let not the Return of my Health be accompanied with a Return to my former Sins and Follies; but let the Experience I have had, how little any Thing will profit in the Time of Trouble, beſides a good Conſci-

ence,

ence, ſo effectually convince me of the Neceſſity of a good Life; ſo powerfully perſwade me to the Practice of Religion; that I may make it the great Study and Endeavour, the conſtant Buſineſs and Employment of my whole Life, to love, adore, and ſerve thee, and in all Things to become ſuch as thou wouldeſt have me to be.

But, O Lord, foraſmuch as without thee I am not able to pleaſe thee, mercifully grant unto me ſuch a Meaſure of thy Grace, as may enable me to amend whatever has been amiſs in the Temper and Diſpoſition of my Mind, or in any of the Actions of my Life. Oh! let me never more be led away by the deceitful Promiſes of the World, the Fleſh, or the Devil; but grant, O my God, that my Hopes and Affections may be unalterably fixed upon that eternal and unchangeable Happineſs, which thou haſt prepared for them that love thee. Let the Thoughts and Expectations of Death and Judgment be ſo conſtantly, ſo powerfully preſent to my Soul, as effectually to work upon my Mind, and to bring forth in me the Fruits of a holy and religious Life. Let

the Pains and Troubles I have lately felt, inſpire me with a tender Pity and Compaſſion for the Miſeries and Calamities of others, and make me ready, upon all Occaſions, to contribute what I can, to the Wants and Neceſſities of my Brethren: And Oh! let thoſe Talents which thou haſt afreſh committed to my Truſt, be ſo faithfully improved for thy Glory, the Good of others, and the Benefit of my own Soul, that whenever thou ſhalt call me to give an Account of my Stewardſhip, I may not be condemned, as an unprofitable Servant, but may be found ſuch an one, as thou ſhalt then pronounce faithful, and bid to enter into the Joy of my Lord.

Grant this, O merciful Father, through the Merits, and for the Sake of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; to whom with thee, and the ever-bleſſed Spirit, be aſcribed, as is moſt due, by me, and every Creature, all Honour, Glory, Power, Dominion, Thankſgiving and Praiſe, throughout all Ages. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Man that has loſt his Wife, or for any other Perſon, that has loſt a Relation or Friend.*

O Moſt mighty God, the Sovereign Lord of Heaven and Earth; thou art Righteous in all thy Ways, and Holy in all thy Works, and doſt every Thing with infinite Wiſdom, Goodneſs, and Love. I acknowledge thy Juſtice, O Lord, in taking from me my dear (*Wife*) (or *Friend*) and depriving me of the Comforts I received from (*Her* or) *His* precious Life; for I am not worthy, I confeſs, of the leaſt of all thy Mercies, having ſo ungratefully behav'd my ſelf under the many Bleſſings thou haſt beſtowed upon me: O be thou pleaſed, for thy dear Son's ſake, to pardon my Ingratitude, and deal not with me according to the Deſert of my Sins.

Sanctifie, O Lord, this Affliction to me, and give me Grace to bring my Will to a meek and quiet Submiſſion to thine, that I may receive this Loſs without murmuring

or repining at the Diſpenſations of thy Providence.

Let not my Grief, O Lord, exceed the Bounds of Reaſon and Religion; but temper it, I beſeech thee, with the Conſolations of thy Holy Spirit, that whatever I want of outward Comforts, I may find made up to me by the inward Joys of a good Conſcience. O let this Loſs, which thou haſt now been pleaſed ſhould befal me, bring me home to my Self, and poſſeſs my Mind with ſuch a thorough Senſe and Conviction of the Uncertainty of all worldly Bleſſings, that I may fix my Heart, my Hopes, and my Deſires, upon thoſe Joys that will never fade; upon thoſe Pleaſures, which are at thy right Hand for evermore.

And grant, O merciful Father, that every one of thoſe who are Sharers with me in this Affliction, may be Partakers likewiſe of thy Support and Comfort; teach us all ſo to number our Days, that we may apply our Hearts unto true Wiſdom; and ſo to fit and prepare our ſelves for that great Account which we muſt one Day give, that when the Time of our appointed Change ſhall come, we

may

may look up to thee with Joy and Comfort, and may at laſt be received into that Place of Reſt and Peace, where all Tears ſhall be wiped from our Eyes, and all our Troubles and Sorrows ſhall have an End; through the Merits and for the ſake of our bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Woman who hath loſt her Husband.*

O Bleſſed Lord, whoſe Providence ordereth all Things both in Heaven and Earth; thou giveſt, and thou takeſt away; thou lifteſt up, and thou caſteſt down; whatever befals us, is by thy wiſe Appointment; even the ſmalleſt as well as the greateſt Accidents of our Lives are directed by thy Hand: Thou haſt taken from me my dear Husband, a Bleſſing I was no longer worthy of: O, be thou merciful unto me, and for the ſake of my dear Redeemer, pardon the unworthy Returns I have

have made for the Bleſſings thou haſt been pleas'd to follow me all my Life long; and give me Grace, I beſeech thee, patiently to ſubmit to the Afflictions which thou haſt now brought upon me, and not murmur or repine under the Stroke of thy chaſtiſing Hand.

Suffer me not, O Holy Father, to grieve like thoſe that have no Hope, nor to entertain any hard Thoughts of thy Providence, beeauſe thou haſt taken from me the great Comfort of my Life: I know thou canſt abundantly make up this Loſs to me, by giving me Bleſſings far greater and much more Valuable, ſuch as no Happineſs in this World can compare with.

I deſire therefore, O Lord, to ſubmit to thy Will, and to repoſe my ſelf under the Care of thy good Providence, aſſuredly believing, that I can never be deſtitute, whilſt I have thee for my Friend, nor miſerable, ſo long as thou art my Portion.

O be thou then to me, whatever I may want of outward Helps: And though thou haſt been pleas'd to take from me ſo great a Temporal Bleſſing, yet O let me never be deprived of thy ſpiritual Mercies: Whatever Comforts thou denieſt me,

deny

deny me not, I beſeech thee, the Comfort of thy Love; but let that be my Portion and Inheritance, the Support of my Life, and the Relief of my Soul, under all the Troubles and Afflictions of this World.

Raiſe me up Friends, O Lord, that may aſſiſt me in all my Exigencies: But eſpecially do thou teach and inſtruct me, that I may manage thoſe Affairs which are now devolv'd upon me, with Prudence, Juſtice, and Integrity.

Let not my Carriage and Behaviour, O Lord, be vain and fantaſtick, light and fooliſh, but decent and modeſt, ſuitable to the Condition thou haſt been pleaſed to bring me to, and ſuch as becomes a Woman profeſſing Godlineſs.

*This is to be omitted where the Woman has no Children.*

Grant that I may educate my Children, in a holy and religious Manner, and bring them up in the Fear and Admonition of thee the Lord: And Oh let thy Bleſſing be always upon their Heads: Give them Grace to hearken to wiſe Inſtruction, and defend them from the Evils and Temptations of this World. O Lord, they are now caſt upon thy Care, O be thou their Father; and never leave them

nor

nor forſake them; but let thy Providence be their Support, and thy Spirit their Guide and Counſellor.

And grant, O merciful Father, that *both they and* I may learn, from the Inſtability of humane Comforts, to delight more in thy Self, and leſs in earthly Things. Let us never think our ſelves unhappy while we can enjoy thee, nor murmur or repine at any Loſſes, ſo long as we are the Objects of thy Love, and the Care of thy good Providence: And Oh! give us Grace ſo to live, that we may comfortably look up to thee at all Times, as our conſtant Friend, and moſt tender Father; as our Life and our Health; our Reſt and our Joy; through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

A N

# OFFICE

F O R

# Women with Child.

## *A Prayer to be frequently uſed by a Woman with Child.*

O God, who art the Author of our Being, the Fountain of Life, and of all Bleſſings Spiritual and Temporal; Thou art great, and doſt wondrous Things, thou art God alone; I adore thy glorious Majeſty, which has begun

begun an excellent Work in me, which no Eye but thine ſees, and no Hand but thy Almighty Power can finiſh.

Be pleaſed, I beſeech thee, in thy great Goodneſs, to perfect and compleat that which thou haſt now begun in me; give it its due Shapes, and full Growth, and preſerve me from all Frights, or evil Accidents, which may cauſe me to miſcarry.

And bleſs it, O God, in Mind, as well as in Body; endue it with an Underſtanding capable to know thee, with a Heart ſtrongly bent to fear thee, and with all thoſe holy and good Diſpoſitions, that may make it always amiable in thy Sight. Oh! ſanctify it, I beſeech thee, from the Womb, and receive and reckon it for thy Child, as ſoon as it is mine; lent to me for my Comfort, but created and reſerved by thee for thy Service and Glory.

O Lord, I humbly commit both my ſelf and this Babe, which is conceived in me, to thy Mercy and Goodneſs: Strengthen and enable me, I beſeech thee, to go thro' all the Pains and Uneaſineſs of Child-bearing, with Patience and Submiſſion to thy Will; conſidering, that they are the juſt Puniſhment of Sin: Give me an humble

Truſt

Truſt and Dependence on thy Fatherly Care and good Providence, and make me in thy good Time, a joyful Mother of a hopeful Child, which may live to be an Inſtrument of thy Glory, and by ſerving thee faithfully, and doing Good in its Generation, may be received into thy everlaſting Kingdom, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, and only Saviour. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer when the Time of Travail draws near.*

O God, the Help of all that put their Truſt in thee; the Support of the Weak, and the Relief of the Needy; look with Pity upon me thy Servant, who, in my beſt Eſtate, am but a weak and helpleſs Creature, and much more in the Condition I am now in, which is attended with many Pains and Uneaſineſſes; under which nothing but thy Power is able to ſupport me.

O

O Lord, in thee is my Truſt, who I know art able and willing to help me; I repoſe my ſelf, therefore, under the Care and Protection of thy Fatherly Goodneſs, deſiring to reſt upon thee alone for my Support, who art the Rock of Ages, and the Strength of all that put their Truſt in thee. Oh! let me not be diſquieted with the Fear of any Evil, ſince none can happen unto me without thy Leave; nor be frighted with the Approach of any Pains; but give me Grace patiently to reſign my ſelf to thy bleſſed Will in all Things, who knoweſt what is beſt for me, and who, I truſt, wilt not lay upon me more than thou wilt enable me to bear.

O Lord, be thou graciouſly pleaſed to proportion thy Strength to my Weakneſs; and when Pains and Sorrows have taken hold on me, leave me not under them, I beſeech thee, but ſave and deliver me for thy Mercies ſake: And, as I have hitherto experienced thy Fatherly Goodneſs in every State and Condition of my Life; ſo let me ſtill find the Continuance of it, to carry me through all the Troubles and Uneaſineſſes of this Life, and more particularly, to enable me to go through the

Time of my Travail, which is now drawing near at Hand.

O Lord, pardon thoſe Sins, that have made me unworthy of thy Care, and deal not with me as I have deſerved, but according to thy Mercy, and the Merits of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous; to whom with thee, O Father, and the bleſſed Spirit, be all Honour, Glory, Power, Thankſgiving, and Praiſe, both now and f r evermore. *Amen.*

## *Ejaculations to be uſed by a Woman during the Time of her Labour.*

SAVE, Lord, and hear me, O King of Heaven, now I call upon thee in this Time of my Trouble.

Be not thou far from me, O Lord; thou art my Succour, haſte thee to help me.

Oh! remember not my Sins and Offences; but according to thy Mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy Goodneſs.

The Sorrows of my Heart are enlarged; Oh! bring thou me out of my Troubles.

Look

Look upon my Adverſity and Miſery, and forgive me all my Sins; that I may ſhew the Voice of Thankſgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous Works.

O hide not thou thy Face from me; nor caſt thy Servant away in Diſpleaſure. Thou haſt been my Succour; leave me not, neither forſake me, O God of my Salvation.

Hear me, O Lord, for thy Loving-kindneſs is comfortable; turn thee unto me, according to the Multitude of thy Mercies.

Thou art my Helper and Redeemer, make no long tarrying, O my God, nor ſuffer me to ſink under the Burden of my Pains.

O my Soul, wait thou ſtill upon God; for my Hope is in Him.

In God is my Health and my Glory, the Rock of my Might; and in God is my Truſt.

Oh! be thou my Help in this Time of my Trouble; for without thee vain is the Help of Man.

Oh! look upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou uſeſt to be unto thoſe that love thy Name.

O Lord, let it be thy Pleaſure to deliver me; make haſte, O Lord, to help me.

## *A Prayer to be uſed by a Husband, or other Friend in Private, for a Woman in Labour; and which, by changing* I *for* We, *may be uſed by the Friends of the Woman in her Preſence.*



GOD, our Refuge and Strength, I fly unto thee for Succour, in behalf of thy Servant now labouring under the Pains and Anguiſh of Child Birth. Shorten her Sorrows, increaſe her Patience, and lay not upon her more than thou wilt enable her to bear.

O hear her Prayers, and let her Crying come unto thee; forſake her not, I beſeech thee, when her Strength faileth; give her an humble Truſt and Confidence in thy Goodneſs; and, Oh! let her find, that the Support and

Com-

Comforts of thy Holy Spirit far exceed the Pains that ſhe is now to go through.

Give her a quiet Submiſſion to thy bleſſed Will, and in thy good Time ſend her Eaſe and Deliverance. Preſerve that Infant which now ſtruggles for its Birth; and (if it be thy good Pleaſure) make her ſpeedily a joyful Mother of a hopeful Child, that may live to be an inſtrument of thy Glory, and uſeful in its Generation.

O Lord, I leave her in thy Hands, and reſign her to thy Will; humbly beſeeching thee to deal graciouſly with her; through the Merits, and for the Sake of thy dear Son, and our alone Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Thankſgiving to be ſaid in the Preſence of the Woman after her Delivery, which may be uſed for ſome Time afterward.*

O Father of Mercies, and God of all Comforts; we thy unworthy Servants do now preſent our ſelves before thee, to return unto thy Divine Majeſty our moſt humble and unfeigned Thanks, for that thou haſt vouchſafed to deliver thy Servant from the great Pain and Peril of Child-Birth. Bleſſed be thy Name, O Lord, that thou haſt turned her Sorrow into Joy, and her Pains into Eaſe and Refreſhment; continue, we beſeech thee, thy Fatherly Goodneſs to her; let thy good Providence ſtill watch over her, and thy Strength ſupport her under all the Weakneſſes of her preſent Condition.

And grant, O moſt merciful Father, that not only this thy Servant, but every one of us here preſent, may, from the Conſideration of thy great Goodneſs, be excited to a greater Love to thee, and a ſtricter

ſtricter Obedience to thy Laws; that thou may'ſt ſtill delight over us to do us Good; and that we ſerving thee faithfully all our Days, may at laſt obtain that greateſt of all Mercies, the eternal Salvation of our immortal Souls, through the Merits of thy Son, and our alone Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.

*This is to be added, if the Child is living.*

We commend likewiſe to thy Mercy and Goodneſs this tender Infant; preſerve it, that it may be regenerated, and born again by Baptiſm; that as it is thine by Creation, ſo it may thereby be made thine by Adoption and Grace.

Sanctifie it, we humbly pray thee, and take it into thy Protection, and ſo fill it with the Graces of thy Holy Spirit, that it may be of the Number of thy faithful Servants, through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Lord and only Saviour. *Amen.*

## *A Thankſgiving to be uſed by a Woman in private, before her going Abroad.*

O Almighty and moſt merciful Father, in whom I live, and move, and have my Being; by thee I have been preſerved ever ſince I was born, and to thy infinite Goodneſs I acknowledge it to be owing, that I am now alive. I deſire, O Lord, to adore and praiſe thy glorious Majeſty, for the many Mercies and Favours which thou haſt beſtowed on me all my Life long; and in a more particular manner, I preſent my ſelf before thee at this Time, to bleſs and praiſe thy holy Name, for thy late Mercies vouchſafed unto me, in delivering me from the great Pains and Peril of Child-Birth: It was thy Power that preſerved me, thy Goodneſs that delivered me, and thy Hand that ſupported me, when Pain and Sorrow laid hold upon me. Praiſed, therefore, be that infinite Love, which moved thee to deal ſo graciouſly with thy Servant, and to enable a weak and feeble Crea-

Creature to go through the Sorrow and Anguiſh of Travail.

O Lord, give me ſuch a Senſe of thy great Goodneſs to me, that I may make it the great Study and Buſineſs of my Life to ſerve and pleaſe thee in all Things; that ſo my Returns of Duty and Obedience may in ſome Meaſure be anſwerable to thoſe many Mercies I have received at thy Hands.

Mortifie and ſubdue in me all ſinful and corrupt Affections, and whatever may tend to alienate my Love from thee, and to ſlacken my Endeavours after the Purſuit of heavenly Things.

*This is to be added, if the Child is living.*

I commend likewiſe, O Lord, to thy Mercy and Goodneſs, that tender Infant which thou haſt lately given me.

Sanctifie it, I humbly pray thee, and ſo fill it with the Graces of thy Holy Spirit, that it may ever be in the Number of thy faithful Servants.

And grant, O merciful Father, that I may never be wanting in my Duty towards it; but enable me by thy Grace, to bring it up in the Nurture and Admonition of thee the Lord; that as it

grows in Years, ſo it may increaſe in Grace, and thy Favour, and be a Comfort to me all my Days, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; to whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, be aſcribed, as is moſt due, all Honour, Glory, Power, Thankſgiving, and Praiſe, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

*In Caſe of dangerous Sickneſs, ſee proper Prayers in the Office for the Sick.*

*The End of the Second Part.*

A

# New Manual OF DEVOTIONS.

## PART III.

Consisting of an

# OFFICE FOR THE Holy Communion.

To which are added,

## Some Occasional PRAYERS.

*This do in Remembrance of me*, Luke xxii. 19.
Filii Dei Sanguine mundatur pœnitens conscientia, *Gerhard.*

*In every thing, by Prayers and Supplications, with Thanksgiving, let your Requests be made known unto God*, Phil. iv. 6.

*The Fifth Edition Corrected.*

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# A New Manual OF DEVOTIONS.

## PART III.

Consisting of an OFFICE for the Holy Communion.

*A Prayer that may be frequently used the Week preceding the Sacrament, and which may be added to our Devotions the Morning we receive.*

O Almighty God, and merciful Father, who hast given thy only Son Jesus Christ to die for us, and didst institute a Holy Feast in Commemoration of that his most precious Death,

Death, thereby to preſerve in our Minds a conſtant Remembrance of his great Love, in laying down his Life for our Sakes; I thy unworthy Servant, who am now invited to thy Holy Table, do humbly adore thy Divine Majeſty, acknowledging that I am not worthy of my daily Bread, much leſs of that which came down from Heaven, and which thou haſt given to be the Food and Nouriſhment of our Souls. O Lord, I confeſs my Sins may juſtly cauſe me to tremble, when I appear before thee; but, O moſt merciful Father, encouraged by thy wonderful Goodneſs, in giving thy Son to die for all penitent and returning Sinners, I preſent my ſelf before thee at this Time; beſeeching thee, in great Humility, to admit me to thy holy Table, that I may taſte and ſee how gracious thou art, and how wonderful in thy Doings towards the Sons of Men. O make my Longings and Deſires after this Divine Food, ſome way anſwerable to my great Need of it; that my Soul being ſenſible of all its Wants, it may no longer ſeek for Relief from the unſatisfying Objects of this World; but coming to thy Holy Table with a true ſpiritual Hunger and Thirſt,

Thirſt, may there find a full Supply of all thoſe Graces and Bleſſings that it ſtands in ſo much need of.

And to this End, O Lord, fit and prepare my Heart to partake of ſo great a Mercy, by giving me a juſt Abhorrence of my own Unworthineſs, and an unfeigned Repentance of all my Sins. Root out of my Heart all ſinful and corrupt Affections, all Prejudice, Hatred, and Ill-will; and plant all thoſe devout and pious, charitable and humble Diſpoſitions, that become the Worſhippers of the Holy Jeſus; that when I preſume to appear before thee, I may bring with me a Heart raiſed above the Corruptions that are in the World, and full of the ſtrongeſt Deſires and Reſolutions of loving and ſerving thee.

Deliver me, O my God, from all Coldneſs and Formality, when I attend upon thee in Holy and Religious Duties; and grant that by going to this Holy Feaſt, I may have my Pardon ſealed, my Weakneſſes repaired, all my evil Inclinations ſubdued, my Faith ſtrengthned, my Hopes enlarged, my Charity increaſed, and my Soul ſo entirely and inſeparably united

unto

unto thee, that nothing may be ever able to diſſolve the Union; but that being begun here in Grace, it may hereafter be conſummated in Glory, through the Merits of Him that died for me, even the Son of thy eternal Love, Jeſus Chriſt the Righteous; to whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, be aſcribed, as is moſt due, all Honour, Glory, Power, Thankſgiving, and Praiſe, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

*Some Motives, Directions, and Aſſiſtance for Examination, may be found in the Office of Humiliation, in the* Second *Part; alſo a General Confeſſion, and other Prayers, which may be uſed in our Preparations for the Sacrament.*

Prayers in the Church; ſome or all of which may be uſed as there is Opportunity; that is, as there are more or fewer to receive.

*A Prayer to prepare our Minds for the Devout Celebration of the Lord's Supper; that may be uſed, if Time will permit, before Divine Service begins; or otherwiſe, as ſoon as Sermon is ended.*

ALmighty God, by whoſe Bounty and Goodneſs I have now an Opportunity offered me of approaching thy Table, and of pleading before thee the prevailing Merits of the Death and Paſſion of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt; I am ſenſible, O Lord, of my great Unworthineſs; but the poſitive Command of my bleſſed Saviour, when he was about to lay down his Life for my ſake, has made it abſolutely neceſſary; and the many ſpiritual Wants I labour under, oblige me to apply to this ſovereign Remedy, for the Repair

Repair of thoſe Breaches my ſinful Follies have made in my Soul.

Aſſiſt me, therefore, O Lord, with thy Holy Spirit, in the great Duty and Service I am about to perform; grant that Nothing, during all the Time of this holy Action, may make me unmindful of that Reverence and Reſpect which I owe unto thy Divine Majeſty, or that Attention which becomes the Celebration of theſe holy Myſteries. Fill my Heart with ſuch an Awe of thy Preſence, as may fix my wandring Thoughts, compoſe my diſorderly Affections, and ſtir up my faint and cold Deſires, that I may feel the Power, and taſte the Sweetneſs of this Divine Banquet.

Grant that I may have ſuch a Senſe of my Saviour's Sufferings, as may fill my Soul with Love and Gratitude towards Him, for thoſe ineſtimable Benefits he has purchaſed for me; that I may have ſuch a Sight of my Sins, which occaſioned all his Sorrows, as heartily to bewail and deteſt them; ſuch a Faith in that full, perfect Oblation and Satisfaction made upon the Croſs for the Sins of the World, that I may ſo importunately plead the Merit of it, in this Commemoration of that Sacrifice, as to render thee

thee gracious and propitious to me, a miſerable Sinner; ſuch a Conviction of my own Weakneſs and Inſufficiency, as may procure thy gracious Aid and Aſſiſtance; ſuch longing Deſires of being made conformable to thy holy Will and Pleaſure, as may transform me into thy Divine Image, and fix me to continue thy faithful Servant all the remaining Days of my Life, through the Merits of Jeſus Chriſt my Saviour. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer when we offer our Alms.*

I Acknowledge, O Lord, that all I poſſeſs is the Effect of thy Bounty; it is from thee I have received it, and to thy holy Name be the Glory. Accept of this Free-Will Offering of my Hands, as an Acknowledgment of thy Right to all I enjoy, and as a Teſtimony of that Love and Charity to my neceſſitous Brethren, which thou requireſt, and art pleaſed to take as done to thy Self. I will dedicate a Part of thoſe

thoſe good Things thou haſt beſtowed upon me, to relieve the Poor; becauſe thou haſt made it an Evidence of my Love to thee: And grant that all my Alms-Deeds may be performed with ſuch Purity of Intention, and in ſuch a Proportion to what thou haſt given me, that they may be acceptable in thy Sight, through the Merits of Jeſus Chriſt my Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer immediately after Conſecration.*

ACcept, O Eternal God, of that Repreſentation we make before thee, of that All-ſufficient Sacrifice which thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt made upon the Croſs: Let the Merit of it plead effectually for the Pardon and Forgiveneſs of all my Sins, and render thee favourable and propitious to me a miſerable Sinner; let the Power of it prevail againſt all the Powers of Darkneſs; let the Wiſdom of it

it make me wiſe unto Salvation; and let the Peace of it reconcile me unto thee, and bring to me Peace of Conſcience.

I adore thee, O bleſſed Jeſus, my Redeemer, who didſt endure the painful and ſhameful Death of the Croſs, to recover me from a State of Sin and Miſery: I admire thy infinite Condeſcenſion, who was pleaſed to be made miſerable, that I might be made happy; poor, that I might be enriched; and didſt die, that I might live for ever. With all my Soul, O dear Jeſus, I love and praiſe thee for theſe ſtupendous Expreſſions of thy Bounty and Goodneſs towards me: O Lamb of God, that takeſt away the Sins of the World, have Mercy upon me: O Lamb of God, that takeſt away the Sins of the World, grant me thy Peace. *Amen*, Lord Jeſus. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer before Receiving the Conſecrated Elements.*

O Moſt gracious God, who of thy infinite Goodneſs haſt given us thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, who did

did offer up himſelf to thee a pure and immaculate Sacrifice upon the Croſs, for us miſerable Sinners.

I humbly beſeech thee, by the Merits of his Blood, the great Price of our Redemption; I intreat thee by his wonderful and ineffable Charity, wherewith he has vouchſafed to love us, unworthy Creatures, at ſo great a Rate; that thou wouldeſt be pleaſed to waſh me in his Blood from all my Sins, which make me unworthy to partake of theſe holy Myſteries.

Let my Repentance be hearty and ſincere, and expreſs it ſelf by all the Fruits of holy Obedience for the Time to come.

Thou alone out of an unclean Thing canſt bring a clean; of a wretched Sinner, make me Holy and Righteous.

Thou art the Fountain of Mercy, ſhut not up thy Bowels of Compaſſion towards me.

Thou art the great Phyſician of Souls, diſplay thy Power in my Health and Recovery.

Let me approach thy holy Table with Reverence and Devotion, that no vile Affections may hinder me from receiving

ing the Benefits of this Divine Nouriſhment.

Let me celebrate this Chriſtian Sacrifice with Purity of Heart, and a right Intention of Mind, that I may obtain all thoſe Advantages, for which thou waſt graciouſly pleaſed to eſtabliſh it.

Let me entirely reſign my Soul and Body to be a reaſonable, holy, and lively Sacrifice unto thee; for thou haſt the juſteſt Claim to me, ſince the bleſſed Jeſus has purchaſed me at the Price of his own Blood.

Grant, O Lord, that I may conſtantly endeavour to make ſome Proficiency in all the Virtues of the Chriſtian Life; becauſe the bleſſed Jeſus has obtained for me, by the Merits of his Sufferings, the Grace and Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, to work in me both to will and to do thy good Pleaſure.

Make me ready to be reconciled to all thoſe that have offended me; becauſe when we were Enemies, we were reconciled to God by the Death of his Son.

Let me embrace all my poor Brethren with ſincere Love and Charity; and contribute all I can to the Relief of Chriſt's diſtreſſed

diſtreſſed Members; becauſe he thought not his Life too dear, nor his Blood too precious, to redeem me from a State of Bondage and Slavery.

Strengthen me, O Lord, in ſuch a manner, by this ſpiritual Food, that I may ſucceſsfully encounter all the Attacks of my ſpiritual Enemies.

Suppreſs in me the Spirit of Pride and Vain-Glory, of Envy and Detraction, of Uncleanneſs and Intemperance, and of all Diſtruſt and Diffidence of thy Mercy.

May all Temptations to any Offences againſt thy Holy Laws, be overcome by that Power which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to communicate to me in this Holy Sacrament.

And may all thoſe Evils, which the Craft and Subtilty of the Devil or Man worketh againſt me, be brought to nought.

That being outwardly and inwardly fortify'd by the Aſſiſtance of thy Grace, I may preſs towards the Mark for the Prize of the high Calling of God in Chriſt Jeſus; when I ſhall enjoy thee no longer in Myſtery, which is our Lot and Portion here below, but ſee thee Face to Face, and be eternally ſatisfy'd with the Pleaſures of thy

thy Kingdom, in and through the Merits of Jeſus Chriſt, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## *Another Prayer.*

O Lord, I come to this Holy Table, as a ſick Man to the great Phyſician of Life; I beſeech thee, O Lord, to cure my Infirmities.

I come as a polluted Wretch to the Fountain of Mercy; waſh away, I intreat thee, all my Uncleanneſs.

I come as a returning Prodigal Child to his tender and compaſſionate Father: O receive me, and relieve me by thy Favour.

I come as a blind Man to the Source of eternal Brightneſs; do thou, O Lord, enlighten my Darkneſs, that I may behold the wondrous Things of thy Law.

I come as a poor frail Creature, to the great Lord of Heaven and Earth; ſupply my Wants, and do abundantly more for me than I am able to ask or think.

Let me not only receive the outward and viſible Sign, but the inward and ſpiritual Grace, the Body and Blood of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt; that ſo all carnal Affections may die in me, and that all Things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in me; that I may have Power and Strength to have Victory, and to triumph againſt the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil; and alſo may be endued with all ſuch heavenly Virtues, which are pleaſing to thee, and which thou wilt eternally reward, for the Merit of thy Son's Death; to whom with the Father, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all Honour and Glory, World without End. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer juſt before Receiving the conſecrated Bread.*



GOD, work in me whatſoever is wanting to fit me for thy Divine Acceptance, and a worthy Receiving of theſe Holy Myſteries. Give me Repentance unto Life,

Life, not to be repented of; Endue me with a lively Faith, a perfect Love, and an univerſal Charity. Pity my Weakneſs, and forgive my Infirmities; that I may worthily receive theſe Elements of Bread and Wine, to my Support and Comfort in this Life, and my Eternal Happineſs in that which is to come. *Amen.*

## *After the Bread.*

O Thou who vouchſafeſt to be our Food; nouriſh my Soul to Life Eternal.

Let me feed on thee by a true and lively Faith; and give me ſuch a Reliſh of this Divine Food, that I may never more be delighted with the vain and ſinful Pleaſures of this World.

O merciful Jeſu! create in me a mighty Hunger after Righteouſneſs; and let this Divine Food inſtil into my weak and languiſhing Soul new Supplies of Grace, new Life, new Love, new Vigour, and new Reſolutions; that I may never again faint, or droop, or tire in my Duty.

## *Before the Cup.*

GRANT, O merciful God, that this Cup, which I am now about to receive, may be unto me a Cup of Bleſſing. Sprinkle me with the Blood of the ever Bleſſed Jeſus; that my Soul being cleanſed from all Corruptions, it may be ever precious in thy Sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

## *After both.*

BLeſſed be the Name of the Lord, I have done as thou haſt commanded me, O let me find the great Benefits of this thy Divine Inſtitution: Pour down thy Graces upon me; direct my Goings in thy Ways, and enable me, by the Power and Strength of this Divine Food, to perſevere in the Practice of a Holy and Religious Life, even to the laſt Moment of my Days. Be thou my Peace and Refuge, and let my Pleaſure

Pleaſure and Safety depend on thee. Be thou my Portion and greateſt Treaſure, and let my Eternal Happineſs be fixed in the Enjoyment of thee. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer as ſoon as we are retired from the Lord's-Table.*

BLeſſing and Honour, Glory and Power, be unto him that ſitteth on the Throne, and unto the Lamb that was ſlain, for ever and ever.

I give thee moſt humble and hearty Thanks, O Lord, that thou haſt been pleaſed to admit me to renew my Baptiſmal Covenant with thee, in this holy Sacrament.

That thou haſt vouchſafed to feed me with the ſpiritual Nouriſhment of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt; and this not for any Merits of my own, but for the Sake of thy infinite Goodneſs and Mercy.

Unworthy though I am, yet thy Bounty, O Lord, never fails; the Love of my Sa-

viour is not diminiſhed, and the Vertue of his Propitiation is never exhauſted; Grant therefore, I beſeech thee, that this Holy Sacrament may never turn to my Judgment and Condemnation:

But that it may be Health and Recovery under all my Weakneſſes and Infirmities;

Safety and Defence againſt all the Attacks of my ſpiritual Enemies;

Vigour and Strength to all my holy Purpoſes and Reſolutions;

Comfort and Support under all the Afflictions and Calamities of Life;

Aſſiſtance and Direction under all Difficulties and Doubts;

Courage and Conſtancy under all Dangers and Perſecutions, eſpecially in Times of Sickneſs, and at the Hour of Death:

Finally, let it procure for me Pardon and Forgiveneſs in this Life, Mercy and Favour at the Day of Judgment, and a never-fading Crown of Glory in thy heavenly Kingdom, where with thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, and the Bleſſed Spirit, thou liveſt and reigneſt, one God, World without End. *Amen.*

'Here,

'Here, or before we receive, if there is 'Time, and the devout Communicant is 'diſpoſed ſo to employ himſelf, may be 'uſed the *Petitions* for the *Virtues* of a '*Chriſtian Life*, or the *Prayer* for the '*Whole State of Mankind*, or the *Thankſ-* '*giving* for God's Mercies, ſpiritual and 'temporal, in the *Second Part.*

'When all have communicated, and the 'Prieſt returns to the remaining Part 'of the Communion Office, we muſt leave 'our private Devotions, and accompany 'him with our devouteſt Affections.

## *A ſhort Prayer when the Communion Service is ended.*

PArdon, O God, all thoſe Imperfections that have accompanied me at this Time in my Attendance at thy Altar; forgive the Deadneſs and Dulneſs of my Affections, the Wandrings of my Thoughts, and the Diſtractions of my Mind.

Let the Sincerity of my holy Purpoſes and Reſolutions be accepted, notwithſtanding my Weakneſs and Frailty.

Oh! let this Commemoration of my Crucified Saviour influence all my Thoughts, Words, and Actions, that my Converſation may be as becometh the Goſpel of Chriſt.

Reward me not according to my Deſerts, but according to my great Neceſſities, and thy own rich Mercy in Jeſus Chriſt; to whom with thee, O God the Father, and God the Holy Ghoſt, be all Honour and Glory, World without End. *Amen.*

'Where Communions are large, we may 'want ſome Exerciſe for the employing 'our devout Affections; and the *Office* 'for the Adminiſtration of the *Holy Com-* 'munion, contains ſuch a Variety of ex- 'cellent Matter for Meditation, that it 'may not be improper to entertain our 'Minds, while others are receiving, with 'the Conſideration of ſome particular 'Parts of it. This may poſſibly be ſome- 'times more uſeful, than either theſe or 'any other Prayers; more eſpecially to 'ſuch as complain of Coldneſs and Dul- 'neſs in their Devotions; for Medita- 'tion naturally tends to warm our Af- 'fections,

'fections, and raiſe in our Minds a Spi-
'rit of Devotion.

'For Example: Suppoſe I had deter-
'mined to meditate on ſome Part or Parts
'of the Confeſſion, which begins thus:
'*Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jeſus*
'*Chriſt, Maker of all Things, Judge of*
'*all Men*: Here I would ſtop, and con-
'ſider well the Import of theſe Words:
'They contain four of God's moſt com-
'prehenſive Titles. Firſt, He is here ſaid
'to be *Almighty*; Secondly, *The Father*
'*of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt*; Thirdly, *The*
'*Maker and Creator of all Things*;
'Fourthly, *The Judge of all Men.* The
'Conſideration of the firſt and laſt will
'provoke us to Godly Sorrow, and the
'ſecond and third will excite our Hope
'in his Mercy. So that from hence we
'may take Occaſion to exerciſe Acts of
'Sorrow and Humiliation, of Hope and
'Love, *&c.* thus: *I conſider, O my God,*
'*that I have offended thee, who art Al-*
'*mighty, and therefore able to puniſh; but*
'*I conſider too, that thou art the Father of*
'*our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and therefore I*
'*cannot doubt of thy Love to me, and of*
'*thy Readineſs to forgive me, who repent*

'*and turn to Thee.* Such Ejaculations 'might be formed from each of theſe Par-'ticulars, or from any other Branches of 'the Communion Office; or we may me-'ditate on ſuch of the following Texts of 'Scripture, or others, as may moſt excite 'our Devotion, or further us in the Way 'of Piety.

'If ye therefore be riſen with Chriſt, 'ſeek thoſe Things which are above, where 'Chriſt ſitteth at the Right Hand of God. 'Set your Affections on Things above, not 'on Things on the Earth, *Col.* iii. 1, 2.

'Love not the World, nor the Things 'that are in the World. If any Man love 'the World, the Love of the Father is not 'in him. For all that is in the World, 'the Luſt of the Fleſh, and the Luſt of 'the Eyes, and the Pride of Life, is not 'of the Father, but is of the World, 1 *Joh.* 'ii. 15, 16.

'Mortifie therefore your Members, 'which are on the Earth; Fornication, 'Uncleanneſs, inordinate Affection, evil 'Concupiſcence, and Covetouſneſs, which 'is Idolatry. For which Things ſake, 'the Wrath of God cometh on the Chil-'dren of Diſobedience, *Col.* iii. 5, 6. 'He

'He that committeth Sin is of the Devil; for the Devil ſinneth from the Beginning. For this Purpoſe the Son of God was manifeſted, that he might deſtroy the Works of the Devil, 1 *Joh.* iii. 8.

'If ye live after the Fleſh, ye ſhall die; but if ye, through the Spirit, do mortifie the Deeds of the Body, ye ſhall live, *Rom.* i. 12.

'They that are Chriſt's, have crucified the Fleſh, with its Affections and Luſts, *Gal.* v. 24.

'Knowing this, that our old Man is crucified with him, that the Body of Sin might be deſtroyed, that henceforth we ſhould not ſerve Sin, *Rom.* vi. 6.

'Take heed, and beware of Covetouſneſs: for a Man's Life conſiſteth not in the Abundance of the Things which he poſſeſſeth, *Matt.* x. 31.

'Godlineſs with Contentment is great Gain. For we brought nothing into this World, and it is certain we ſhall carry nothing out. And having Food and Raiment, let us be therewith content; but they that will be Rich, fall into Temptation, and a Snare, and into many

'many foolish and hurtful Lusts, which 'drown Men in Destruction and Perdition, '1 *Tim.* vi. 6, 7, 8, 9.

'But thou, O Man of God, flee these 'Things, and follow after Righteousness, 'Godliness, Faith, Love, Patience, Meek-'ness. Charge them that are rich in this 'World, that they be not high-minded, 'nor trust in uncertain Riches, but in the 'living God; who giveth us all Things 'richly to enjoy. That they do Good; 'that they be rich in good Works; lay-'ing up in store for themselves a good 'Foundation against the Time to come, 'that they may lay hold on eternal Life, '1 *Tim.* vi. 17, 18, 19.

'Here we have no continuing City, but 'seek one to come, *Heb* xiii. 14.

'As Strangers and Pilgrims on the Earth, '*Heb.* xi. 13.

'What is your Life? it is a Vapour, 'that appeareth a little Time, and then 'vanisheth away, *Jam.* iv. 14.

'It is appointed unto Men once to die, 'but after this the Judgment, *Heb.* ix. 27.

'Now I say, Brethren, it remains that 'both they that have Wives, be as tho' 'they

'they had none; and they that weep, as 'though they wept not; and they that 'rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; 'and they that buy, as though they poſ-'ſeſſed not; and they that uſe this World, 'as not abuſing it; for the Faſhion of 'this World paſſeth away, 1 *Cor.* vii. 29, '30, 31.

'Our Rejoicing is this, the Teſtimony 'of our Conſcience, that in Simplicity 'and godly Sincerity, by the Grace of 'God, we have had our Converſation in 'the World, 2 *Cor.* i. 12.

'And herein do I exerciſe my ſelf, to 'have always a Conſcience void of Offence, 'towards God, and towards Men, *Acts* 'xxiv. 16.

'If our Hearts condemn us not, then 'have we Confidence towards God, 1 *Joh.* 'iii. 21.

'Let him that thinketh he ſtandeth (*or* '*ſhall ſtand*) take heed leſt he fall, 1 *Cor.* 'x. 12.

'Thou ſtandeſt by Faith. Be not high-'minded, but fear, *Rom.* xi. 20.

'Watch and pray, that ye enter not in-'to Temptation. The Spirit indeed is

'willing,

'willing, but the Fleſh is weak, *Matt.* 'xxvi. 41.

'God is faithful, who will not ſuffer 'you to be tempted above what you are 'able; but will, with the Temptation, 'make a Way to eſcape, that ye may be a-'ble to bear it, 1 *Cor.* x. 13.

'For though we walk in the Fleſh, we 'do not war after the Fleſh; for the Wea-'pons of our Warfare are not carnal, but 'mighty through God to the pulling down 'of ſtrong Holds: Caſting down Imagi-'nations, and every high Thing that ex-'alteth it ſelf againſt the Knowledge of 'God, and bringing into Captivity every 'Thought to the Obedience of Chriſt, 2 'Cor. x. 3, 4, 5.

'Let your Loins be girded about, and 'your Lights burning; and ye your ſelves 'like unto Men that wait for the Lord, '*Luke* xii. 35.

'The Hour is coming, in the which all 'that are in the Grave ſhall hear his Voice, 'and ſhall come forth: They that have 'done Good, unto the Reſurrection of 'Life; and they that have done Evil, un-'to the Reſurrection of Damnation, *Joh.* 'v. 28.

'Take

'Take heed to your ſelves, leſt at any 'time your Hearts be overcharged with 'Surfeiting and Drunkenneſs, and Cares 'of this Life; and ſo that Day come up-'on you unawares, *Luk.* xxi. 34.

'The Cares of this World, and the De-'ceitfulneſs of Riches, and the Luſts of o-'ther Things entring in, choak the Word, 'and it becometh unfruitful, *Mark* iv. 19.

'In this is my Father glorified, that ye 'bear much Fruit, *Joh.* xv. 8.

'Every Tree that bringeth not forth 'good Fruit, is hewn down, and caſt into 'the Fire, *Matt.* vii. 19.

'Every Branch in me that beareth not 'Fruit, he taketh away; and every Branch 'that beareth Fruit, he purgeth it, that it 'may bring forth more Fruit, *Joh.* xv. 2.

'Judge nothing before the Time, until 'the Lord come; who will bring to Light 'the hidden Things of Darkneſs, and will 'make manifeſt the Counſels of the Heart, '1 *Cor.* iv. 5.

'All the Churches ſhall know that I am 'He which ſearcheth the Reins and Heart; 'and I will give to every one of you accord-'ing to your Works, *Rev.* ii. 23.

'If

'If ye love me, keep my Command-
'ments. He that hath my Command-
'ments, and keepeth them, he it is that
'loveth me; And he that loveth me, ſhall
'be loved of my Father, and I will love
'him, and manifeſt my ſelf to him. If
'a Man love me, he will keep my Words.
'He that loveth me not, keepeth not my
'Sayings. Ye are my Friends, if ye do
'whatſoever I command you, *Joh.* xiv. 15,
'21, 23, 24. *And* xv. 14.

'One comes to him, and asks him,
'ſaying, Maſter, What ſhall I do to in-
'herit eternal Life? Jeſus ſaid unto him,
'if thou wilt enter into Life, keep the
'Commandments, *Matt.* xix. 16, 17.

'This is my Commandment, that ye
'love one another, as I have loved you.
'Theſe Things I command, that ye love one
'another, *Joh.* xv. 12, 17.

'And when he had called the People
'unto him, with his Diſciples alſo, he
'ſaid unto them, Whoſoever will come
'after me, let him deny himſelf, and
'take up his Croſs, and follow me, *Mar.*
'viii. 34.

'If any Man will come after me, let him
'deny

'deny himſelf, and take up his Croſs daily,
'and follow me, *Luk.* ix. 23.

'He that taketh not his Croſs, and fol-
'loweth after me, is not worthy of me,
'*Matt.* x. 38.

'If thy right Eye offend thee [*that is, a-
'ny Luſt as dear as a right Eye*] pluck it
'out, and caſt it from thee; for it is
'profitable for thee that one of thy Mem-
'bers ſhould periſh, and not that thy
'whole Body ſhould be caſt into Hell,
'*Matt.* vi. 29.

'And if thy right Hand offend thee,
'[*that is, any Luſt as dear as a right
'Hand*] cut it off, and caſt it from thee;
'for it is profitable for thee that one of
'thy Members ſhould periſh, and not that
'thy whole Body ſhould be caſt into Hell,
'*Matt.* v. 30.

'Enter in at the ſtrait Gate: for wide
'is the Gate, and broad is the Way that
'leadeth to Deſtruction, and many there
'be that go in thereat; becauſe ſtrait is the
'Gate, and narrow is the Way which lead-
'eth unto Life, and few there be that find
'it, *Matt.* vii. 13, 14.

'He that loveth Father or Mother more
'than me, is not worthy of me; and he that

'loveth

'loveth Son or Daughter more than me, is 'not worthy of me, *Matt.* x. 37.

'Whoſoever ſhall be aſhamed of me, and 'of my Words, of him ſhall the Son of Man 'be aſhamed, when he ſhall come in his own 'Glory, and in his Father's, and of the 'Holy Angels, *Luk.* ix. 26.

'*Peter* began to ſay unto him, Lo, we 'have left all and followed thee. And Je-'ſus anſwered and ſaid, Verily I ſay unto 'you, there is no Man that hath left Houſe, 'or Brethren, or Siſters, or Father, or Mo-'ther, or Wife, or Children, or Lands, for 'my Sake, and the Goſpel's; but he ſhall 'receive an hundred-fold now in this Time, 'Houſes, and Brethren, and Siſters, and 'Mothers, and Children, and Lands, with 'Perſecutions, and in the World to come 'Eternal Life, *Mark* x. 28, 29, 30.

'Whoſoever, will ſave his Life, ſhall loſe 'it; but whoſoever ſhall loſe his Life for 'my Sake and the Goſpel's; the ſame ſhall 'ſave it, *Mark* viii. 36.

'What ſhall it profit a Man, if he ſhall 'gain the whole World, and loſe his own 'Soul? *Mark* iii. 6.

'This is the Will of God, even your 'Sanctification, 1 *Theſſ.* iv. 3.

'Bleſſed

'Bleſſed are they that do his Command-
'ments, that they may have Right to the
'Tree of Life, and may enter in through
'the Gates into the City, (*of the new* Jeru-
'ſalem) *Rev.* xxii. 14.

'Grace and Peace be multiplied unto
'you, through the Knowledge of God,
'and of Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, — that
'hath called us to Glory and Virtue;
'whereby are given unto us exceeding great
'and precious Promiſes; that by theſe you
'might be Partakers of the Divine Na-
'ture, having eſcaped the Corruption that
'is in the World through Luſt, 2 *Pet.* i.
'2, 3, 4.

## *A Prayer in our Retirement after we are returned Home from the Lord's Table.*

O Lord, my God! I acknowledge, with all Thankfulneſs of Heart, thy great Mercy and Goodneſs, in giving me an Opportunity of approaching thy Holy Table, and in

in diſpoſing my Mind to commemorate the infinite Love of my crucified Saviour, to render him Thanks and Praiſe for laying down his Life as a Sacrifice for the Sins of the World, and to repreſent unto thee that Sacrifice, as a full Satisfaction for them, whereby thou doſt incline me humbly to hope for all the Benefits of his Death and Paſſion.

What Thanks, moſt gracious God, can I return unto thy Divine Majeſty, for impreſſing a Senſe of my Duty upon my Mind, and for that Strength and Power, whereby thou haſt in ſome Meaſure enabled me to perform it? I will praiſe and magnify thy great and glorious Name, and I will entirely devote my ſelf to thy Service, as long as I have any Being.

Bleſſed be thy Name for thoſe freſh Supplies of Grace I have received; grant that they may make me run the Way of thy Commandments with Delight and Pleaſure, that I may never any more faint, or droop, or tire in my Duty.

Bleſſed be thy Name for thoſe comfortable Aſſurances thou haſt given me of Pardon and Forgiveneſs. Let this thy compaſſionate Goodneſs be a perpetual Obligation

gation to Love and Gratitude. Let it put me upon my Guard, that I may watch over all my Ways, and do always that which is well-pleaſing in thy Sight.

Bleſſed be thy Name for that Peace and Quiet thou haſt reſtored to my Soul; for thoſe Reſolutions thou haſt wrought in me to perſevere in thy Service to the End of my Days: Make them firm, vigorous, and conſtant; and let never any ſinful Paſſions any more ruffle and diſcompoſe my Mind.

Bleſſed be thy Name, for that Reliſh thou haſt given me of ſpiritual Delights; that Deſire of Poſſeſſing the eternal Inheritance: Let the Enjoyments of Senſe appear mean and contemptible; and let not the Pleaſures of the World any more prevail upon me to tranſgreſs thy Holy Laws.

Grant, O Lord, that I may walk worthy of theſe thy diſtinguiſhing Mercies, and live as becomes the Redeemed of the Lord. Without thee, O Bleſſed Jeſus, I can do nothing; without thee, who art the Sun of Righteouſneſs, I ſhall walk in Darkneſs; without thee, who art the Phyſician of Souls, I ſhall languiſh and die; without thee, who art the Joy of

all

all devout Minds, I ſhall conſume my Days away in Sadneſs. Remain therefore, O Lord, and abide with me for ever: I ſhall then be enabled to do thy Will in this Life, and thereby be qualified to partake of thy Glories to all Eternity in the next. *Amen. Amen.*

# PRAYERS
FOR
# Several Occaſions.

## *A Prayer for the Converſion of a Sinner, to be uſed by a Friend.*

O Bleſſed Jeſus! thou great Lover of Souls, who cameſt into the World to call Sinners to Repentance, and to ſeek and to ſave thoſe that were loſt; grant that thy Example may excite in Chriſtians a true and real Concern for the Salvation of one another. I deſire, O Lord, to be filled with that

that truly Chriſtian Spirit, and am now come before thee, humbly to intercede with thee in the behalf of (*here name the Perſon*) who ſeems to be under the Power of Sin, and to live as without God in the World, and in Danger of being for ever loſt. O what ſhall I do for *him*? And how ſhall I apply my ſelf to be helpful to *him*? I deſire to learn Wiſdom of thee, my Lord, and to be enabled to uſe the moſt proper Methods and Expedients to work upon *him*, and to do *him* good. O inſtruct me in the Way that I ſhall take; and aſſiſt and bleſs me in the Means and Endeavours I ſhall uſe to attain this deſirable End.

O Almighty God, who canſt enlighten the darkeſt Minds, ſoften the hardeſt Hearts, conquer the ſtubborneſt Wills, and turn even the moſt hopeleſs Sinners to thy ſelf; be thou pleaſed to manifeſt the Powers of thy Grace, in the Caſe that is ſo ſad and deplorable: Convince *him*, O Lord, of the great Danger *his* Soul is in; open *his* Eyes, ſoften *his* Heart, and turn *his* Courſe; break the Force of *his* Temptations, and make *him* a Way to eſcape out of the Enemy's Hands; that even *he*, who ſeems to be now dead in Treſpaſſes

paſſes and Sins, may hear thy Voice and live.

Give *him* a true and unfeigned Repentance; forgive *him* all the evil Thoughts and Devices of *his* Heart, and all the offenſive, wicked Carriage of *his* Life; forgive *him* all *his* Sins of Omiſſion and Commiſſion, and bring *him* with full Purpoſe of Heart to reſign and give up *himſelf* to thee; and make *him* diligent to redeem the Time that *he* hath loſt, and to become Exemplary in all the Practices of Piety and Honeſty, of Charity and Sobriety, and all other Duties of a Chriſtian Life; that *he* may be truly changed, and quite another manner of Perſon in all holy Converſation and Godlineſs. To this End, grant that *he* may ſeriouſly conſider the Promiſes and Threatnings of the Goſpel, the ineſtimable Rewards thou haſt promiſed to the Good, and thoſe dreadful Puniſhments thou haſt threaten'd to the Wicked. O grant *him* an Inheritance amongſt them that are ſanctify'd through Faith in thee, and ſend down that renewing Grace into *his* Heart, which may be there as a Well of Water ſpringing up to everlaſting Life. Incline *him* to be diligent in the Uſe of

the Means of Grace which thou haſt appointed; and grant that *he* may not reſiſt and grieve thy Holy Spirit, but conſtantly obey and follow his kind Motions and Operations. Thus comfort and rejoice the Soul of thy Servant, O Lord; ſhew, O bleſſed Jeſus, thy ſaving Mercy not only to this Perſon, but to my ſelf and all Mankind. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon under any Injuries, Abuſes, or Provocations.*

BLeſſed Jeſus, the Prince of Peace, I am ſenſible, that even the beſt of Men, in paſſing through this tumultuous World, are often inſulted and evil entreated: Thou thy ſelf didſt meet with cruel Mockings and Scourgings when upon Earth, and waſt evil entreated, and ſpit upon, and perſecuted even to Death it ſelf: Neither did thy bleſſed Diſciples find a better Treatment from the World; they had alſo Tryal of cruel Mockings and Scourgings, and of ſevere

vere Bonds and Impriſonment: And if this was the Uſage that thou and thy Followers had in the World, O what am I, that I ſhould look to be exempted from all Injuries and Wrongs! ſuch as I have made my Enemies, by my Folly and Miſcarriage, Lord, incline and enable me to appeaſe, and gain them; direct my Ways to pleaſe thee, that thou may'ſt make them to be at Peace with me; and ſuch as are my Enemies wrongfully, Lord, lay not this Sin to their Charge; open their Eyes, purifie their Minds, and turn their Hearts; that they may ſee their Error, and be reconciled to thee, O God, and then live with their Brethren, in Unity and godly Love, and that at laſt we may meet together in heavenly Glory; and thoſe that will not ceaſe from hating, Lord, prevent them from hurting me; or though they do hurt me, grant me ſuch a Meaſure of thy Grace, that I may not only forgive them, but for their Hatred, may return Good-Will; for their Curſing, Bleſſing; for their Injuries, may do them Good; and for their Perſecutions, may pray for them, in Obedience to thy

Command and Example, who didſt expreſs the higheſt Love to us, in dying for us, even when we were thy Enemies. Let me conſider all injurious Treatment as thy Rod, and the Puniſhment of my Sins; that inſtead of endeavouring to revenge my ſelf of my Enemies, I may be meek and patient under all Wrongs. O Lord God, mortifie, I beſeech thee, in all of us, the carnal Mind, which is Enmity againſt thee, and all thoſe Luſts that war in our Members, from whence Wars and Fightings come. Turn all our Enmity againſt the common Enemy of our Souls; and join all our Hearts to thee, in thy true Fear and Love, that we may not meditate Revenge, but ſtudy to be quiet, and never foment and purſue our Quarrels; but following thy Example, we may with one Mind, and with one Mouth, glorifie thee. *Amen.*



## *A Prayer to be uſed by one who is going a Journey, which may be added to the uſual Devotions.*

O God, who art alike preſent in all Places, and preſerveſt Man and Beaſt, bleſſed be thy Name for the Knowledge thou haſt given me of thy wiſe and merciful Providence, who makeſt thy Angels miniſtring Spirits for them that ſhall be Heirs of Salvation.

I commit my Soul and Body to thy Protection, who art the Defender of all them that put their Truſt in thee. To thee, O Lord, do I commit my ſelf, and all that belongs to me: I entirely depend on thy Goodneſs to be with me, and proſper me in the Way that I am going. Give thy Holy Angels Charge of me, and defend me from all Thieves and Robbers, and from all Caſualties and evil Accidents, if it be thy bleſſed Will; and I beſeech thee, more eſpecially, to accompany me with the Preſence of thy Holy Spirit, to preſerve my Soul in Safety, from all evil Thoughts, Deſires, or Paſſions, that may

any Way betray me, in Word or Deed, to offend thy Divine Majeſty. Deliver me from the Danger of any evil Company, into which I may fall, that I may not frame my ſelf to the Manners of profane Perſons, but by a pious and diſcreet Behaviour rather reprove them; and give me Grace thankfully to embrace the Company of thoſe who are good, if I be bleſſed with it; that I may rejoice in their Society, and improve it to my increaſe in Wiſdom and pious Affections towards thee. Bleſs and defend this Habitation which I am now leaving, and all remaining in it; that whatever Diſtance we may be one from another, we may all live and walk in the ſame Spirit of Faith, and Love, and Holineſs. Grant me a happy Meeting again with my Friends and Relations, if it be thy good Will and Pleaſure: But howſoever thou ſhalt think fit to diſpoſe of us in this World, bring us, in the End of our Pilgrimage, into that bleſſed Reſt which thou haſt prepared for thy faithful Servants, through Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Thanksgiving after a Return from a Journey.*

BLeſſed be thy Name, O God, who haſt protected and preſerved me from many Perils and Dangers in the Journey I have lately taken. Thou haſt been a Covering to me Night and Day, in every Place where I have been, from I know not how many Dangers; and haſt at laſt brought me Home in Peace and Safety to my Relations and Friends; whom thou haſt protected, and their Dwellings, from all evil Accidents.

To thy good Providence I wholly owe it; and I deſire to be duly thankful for theſe and all other thy great Mercies and Deliverances, who haſt dealt ſo bountifully with me.

Endue me, O God of all Grace, with a more ſerious Spirit, often reflecting and meditating upon thee, and upon thy Benefits both to my Soul and Body; for this Life, and that which is to come; that I may not be taught the Value and

Number of thy Bleſſings, by being deprived of them; but in their conſtant Uſe and Enjoyment, may praiſe thy infinite Goodneſs and Mercy, with ſenſible Love to thee, and delight in doing thy Will.

Bleſs all others, I beſeech thee, that deſire the ſame Mercy of which thou haſt made me a Partaker. Receive them into thy Protection; conduct them in Safety to the End of their Journey; make them ever mindful of thy loving Kindneſs, and careful to remember, that every new Benefit is a new Obligation to better Obedience; for thy Mercies ſake in Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon upon a Relapſe into Sin.*

O Lord, the great and dreadful God, to me belongeth Confuſion of Face, becauſe I have ſinned againſt thee, and have been guilty of ſo late Iniquity in thy Sight I have acknowledged the Juſtice and Goodneſs of thy Laws, and have choſen thy Service,

Service, as the moſt perfect Freedom; I know that without Holineſs none ſhall ſee thee, O Lord; and that Tribulation and Anguiſh, Indignation and Wrath, is the Portion of all that do Evil: And yet, O Lord, fooliſh and miſerable Sinner that I am, I have yielded again to Temptation, and departed from thy Ways, and Holineſs, and Life, for the Sake of a preſent Satisfaction, a ſmall and momentary Pleaſure or Gain *(here name the particular Sin)* And hereby I have incurred thy Diſpleaſure, abuſed thy Grace and Goodneſs to me, and have hazarded the Loſs of thy eternal Favour, which is better than Life it ſelf.

*But, O Lord God, to whom belongeth Mercy and Forgiveneſs, I moſt earneſtly beſeech thee to have Mercy on me; O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive, hearken and do; my Conſcience reproaches me, and my Heart is troubled within me; I feel my ſelf deprived of that Hope and Confidence in thee through Jeſus Chriſt, which I had attained by my former Repentance and Amendment, and now conſider and find my ſelf liable to thy Wrath, and obnoxious to thy Judgments both Temporal and Eternal.*

Correct me, O Lord, but with Mercy, leſt thou bring me to nothing: I know that the Wages of Sin is Death; but I humbly beſeech thee, O merciful God, who art ſlow to Anger, and of great Pity, and would'ſt have none to periſh, but all to come to Repentance, ſpare me, and grant me farther Time for Repentance, that I may finiſh the Work thou haſt given me, and which I now purpoſe and reſolve to make the great Buſineſs of my future Life.

Be pleaſed, O Lord, for thy Son's ſake, and for thy Goodneſs ſake, to pardon and forgive what is paſt; and give me Grace to bring forth the Fruits of Repentance in Newneſs and Holineſs of Life.

Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, that there is Hopes and Aſſurance for returning Sinners, in and through Chriſt, who was pleaſed to ſhed his Blood, as a meritorious Sacrifice, Expiation and Atonement for the Sins of the World.

O let that Blood of Chriſt, who, thro' the Eternal Spirit, offered himſelf without Spot to God, purge my Conſcience from dead Works, to ſerve thee the Living God, and purify my Soul from all Sin

and

and Uncleanneſs, that I may find the Power of his Death in my dying to Sin, and riſing unto Righteouſneſs; in having the old Man crucified with him, that the Body of Sin may be deſtroyed, that henceforth I may not ſerve Sin; but that I may live as becomes the Goſpel; as it becomes one who profeſſeth Godlineſs, and a moſt Holy Religion, and who hath, by ſolemn Vows, undertaken to live according to the Precepts of it, and to deny all Ungodlineſs and worldly Luſts: Oh! make me truly ſenſible, and always to keep in Mind, that on the Performance of the Duty of a Chriſtian, depend all my Hopes of Pardon and Happineſs, and all the Benefits that Chriſt has purchaſed for me.

To this End let me ſeriouſly conſider, that the Chriſtian Life is a continual Warfare; that we are beſet with many and great Dangers; and that the Devil goeth about, like a roaring Lion, ſeeking whom he may devour; that ſo I may give the more Heed to make my Calling and Election ſure: Grant that I may watch and pray, leſt I enter into Temptations, or they get the Advantage over me; and grant, that I may avoid all Occaſions of

Fal-

Falling, and never ſet my ſelf in the Way of Temptations, but keep at the greateſt Diſtance from them.

Let me likewiſe conſider, that if after I have eſcaped the Pollutions of the World, I ſhould again be entangled therein, and overcome, that the latter End will be worſe than the Beginning; and that it had been better for me not to have known the Way of Righteouſneſs, than after I have known it, to turn aſide from the holy Commandment.

O God, who didſt ſend thy Son into the World to free us from Sin, and to redeem us from all Iniquity; Grant that on my ſincere Endeavour I may be kept from all preſumptuous Sins, leſt they get the Dominion over me. And that I may conquer and overcome all my corrupt Affections and ſinful Diſpoſitions, and may attain all thoſe Graces which are neceſſary for my Salvation, [*Particularly* ——— ] That in the Exerciſe thereof, and of all other Chriſtian Virtues and Graces, for the Time to come, I may grow ſtrong in the Lord, and never let go my holy Profeſſion, but may proceed from Strength to Strength, that ſo an Entrance may be miniſtred to me abun-

abundantly into thy everlaſting Kingdom, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for the Societies.*

O Lord Almighty, faithful and true, who by thy holy Prophet haſt told us, That from the Riſing of the Sun, unto the Going down of the ſame, thy Name ſhall be great among the Gentiles, and in every Place Incenſe ſhall be offered unto thy Name, and a pure Offering; for thy Name ſhall be great among the Heathen: Bleſs and proſper, I beſeech thee, the Endeavours of the Society eſtabliſhed among us, for the Propagation of the Goſpel in Foreign Parts: Take thou from them, to whom the glad Tidings of Salvation ſhall be preached, all Ignorance, Hardneſs of Heart, and Contempt of thy Word; ſo that thy Word being ſown in good and honeſt Hearts, it may bring forth Fruit abundantly to thy Honour, and the Salvation of their Souls: And grant, that all who have heard and re- *Mal.* i. 11.

received it, may live according to its Doctrine and Precepts, and by Holineſs of Life, and Zeal for thy Glory, may become eminent Examples to all about them.

Bleſs all the Religious, and other Societies amongſt us, for Chriſtian Conference, and Works of Charity; for the Promoting of Chriſtian Knowledge and Practice amongſt the Poor and Ignorant; and for putting the Laws in Execution againſt the Vicious and Profane.

O Lord, increaſe the Number of theſe Societies, and grant them all to chooſe the beſt and moſt inoffenſive Means for accompliſhing their ſeveral Ends, and to proſecute them diligently, and with a Zeal directed by Wiſdom and Prudence. And grant, that all of them being free from all worldly Intereſts, may ſtedfaſtly purſue the Advancement of thy Glory, and the good of Mankind.

And grant, O God, that no Good thou ſhalt vouchſafe to bring about by their poor Endeavours, may tempt them to think highly of themſelves, but modeſtly and humbly.

Remove all unreaſonable Prejudices againſt their Deſigns; ſhed forth thy Love abroad

abroad in their Hearts, and make them zealous of all good Works, that they may chearfully embrace all Opportunities of doing Good to the Souls and Bodies of Men, and not be diſcouraged at any Difficulties or Oppoſitions they may meet with.

O God, hear their Prayers for themſelves and others: defend them from the Rage of Satan, and from the Malice of evil Men; perfect Holineſs more and more in their Hearts; and unite them more to one another in thy Truth, and in the Bond of Love; and make them zealous of all good Works, according to the Command and Example of Jeſus Chriſt, who went about doing Good; for whoſe ſake, I beſeech thee to hear me. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon engaged in a Law-Suit, or like to be ſo.*

O Thou Sovereign Lord and Governour of the World, to thee all Judgment belongs, and to thee I ſubmit my ſelf, in the Cauſe wherein I am [likely to be] engaged.

I have endeavoured, according to the beſt of my Power and Skill, faithfully to examine and conſider the Juſtice of my Cauſe, before I durſt lay it at thy Tribunal; convince me, O Lord, if I am under any Miſtake; direct and aſſiſt me under all the Difficulties and Incumbrances, which I am like to meet with; and in thy good Time, put a happy and peaceable End to the Buſineſs which I [am about to undertake, or] have undertaken.

To which End, give me that Wiſdom from above, which is peaceable, gentle, and eaſy to be intreated; that nothing may be wanting on my part, to bring this Matter to a ſpeedy and friendly Concluſion; and diſpoſe the Heart of my contending Brother to the like peaceable Inclination: Teach us to lay aſide all Fondneſs and Partiality, and enable us continually to practiſe that Chriſtian and Equitable Law, of doing as we would be done by.

But if this Matter be too hard for us, and if it be thy good Pleaſure, that I ſhall be engaged in a Law-Suit; [or, ſince it is thy good Pleaſure, that I am engaged in Law] grant me the Help of thy Grace, that I may contend for Right more

than

than Victory; that nothing may be done through Malice, Strife, Pride, or Vain-glory; that no Profit or Advantage whatſoever may prevail upon me, to tranſgreſs the Laws of Juſtice and Charity; nor any illegal Practice or hard Uſage, which I may meet with from my Adverſary, ever provoke me to the like Injuſtice, or to any unchriſtian Behaviour towards him; but that during the whole Courſe of Law, I may preſerve a friendly, peaceable and equitable Temper of Spirit; ſubmitting the Event to thy Fatherly Wiſdom and Diſpoſition, who knoweſt what is moſt neceſſary and convenient for me.

And, I beſeech thee, to keep me conſtantly under ſuch a Senſe of thy All-ſeeing Providence, and ſuch a Dread of thy Juſtice, that I may never offer the leaſt Wrong or Injury to any Man; but on the contrary, make me willing and ready (according to thy Command) to ſuffer ſome Injuries, rather than expoſe my ſelf and Neighbour to thoſe Evils and Temptations, which we may be liable to in procuring a legal Satisfaction; eſpecially, let me never dare to commit any Fraud or Oppreſſion under the Colour or Pretence of Law;

Law; nor venture to ſupport my ſelf in the moſt juſt Cauſe, by any unlawful Means. Make me prudently to conſider, that whatever Injuries may happen to me, by the Fraud or Injuſtice of Man, are by thy Permiſſion; as a Tryal of my Patience, or a Correction of my Offences, or for ſome other wiſe and good End of thy Providence; and that thou, who art the Sovereign Diſpoſer of all Things, canſt, and I hope wilt, make up whatever Loſs ſhall befal me, when it hath effected the Ends for which thou waſt pleaſed to inflict it; that ſo in the mean Time, I may be patient and ſubmiſſive to thy Will, conſidering that thou haſt an abſolute Right to all that I poſſeſs.

I beſeech thee alſo, let the Remembrance of thy Mercies and Forgiveneſs towards me, fill my Heart with ſuch a Chriſtian Love and Compaſſion, that I may never contend with my Neighbour to gratify my own corrupt Nature, nor take Delight in his Sufferings: But let the Senſe of what thou haſt done and ſuffered for me, baniſh all covetous Deſires from my Soul, and excite in me a Compaſſion towards thy diſtreſſed Members; for

for thy ſake, forgiving my Fellow-Servants, as I hope my ſelf to be forgiven, when thou ſhalt come to judge the Quick and the Dead. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake, our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for one that deliberates about Marriage.*

O GOD, the Creator and Preſerver of Mankind, who haſt inſtituted the Holy State of Matrimony, as the only Way to continue the World, and for the Comfort of Man's Life, under the various Evils, Cares, and Labours of it, by the mutual Society and Help that married Perſons ought to have one for the other, both in Proſperity and Adverſity, and for the Good of humane Society, by preventing many Confuſions, and promoting Concord therein: Grant, that now I have Thoughts of entring into this State, I may ſo ſeriouſly conſider the chief End of its Inſtitution, as

not

not to enterprize the ſame unadviſedly, lightly, or wantonly, to ſatisfy my carnal Luſt or Appetites; but reverently, diſcreetly, adviſedly, ſoberly, and in the Fear of God.

Let me ſeriouſly weigh and conſider beforehand, the ſolemn Vow and Promiſe I ſhall then make, ſo as never to entertain any Thoughts of it, without a ſincere Purpoſe of Heart, and firm Reſolution of Mind to perform the ſame.

Let me conſider, that if I marry, my future Happineſs or Miſery of Life will very much depend on the Choice I make; that with whomſoever I marry, I venture the being Happy or Unhappy all my Days; and that I ſhall be obliged by thy Holy Laws to love my Partner, and no other, till Death.

Let not a wild and ſenſual, a heedleſs and inconſiderate Spirit, rule me in this momentous Change of my Life. [And ſince I am young, and under the Care and Direction of others, as I expect thy Bleſſing, let me liſten to their Advice, and better Judgment in this Matter.]

*This is to be uſed by a Perſon under the Care of Parents or Guardians.*

Let

Let Reaſon and Religion, Prudence and Conſideration; and above all, thy good Providence, direct my Choice; and let my chief Ends be thoſe for which Matrimony was ordained.

Let me chiefly aim at Religion and Virtue, Wiſdom and Diſcretion, and ſuch other good Qualities and Diſpoſitions in a Partner, as are moſt likely to laſt and continue, and not ſuch as only pleaſe for a Time, and will bear little ſatisfactory Reflexion afterwards.

O Lord, the Sovereign and wiſe Diſpoſer of all Things! Grant I may duly conſider, that a Man's Heart deviſeth a Way, and propoſeth a Deſign to make his Life eaſy and happy: Yet thou, O Lord, directeſt his Steps, and determineſt the Event, and giveſt ſuch Iſſues as it pleaſes thee, and when thou ſeeſt fit, many Times quite contrary to what he intended and perſwaded himſelf of; I know the Way of Man is not in himſelf, it is not in Man that walketh, to direct his own Steps.

Let me therefore in all my Ways acknowledge thee, that thou may'ſt vouchſafe to direct my Paths: Let me not truſt

to

to my own Prudence, Care, Skill, or on any humane Aid; but let me ſeek to engage thy good Providence on my Behalf, and only regard to do my own Duty; becauſe the Events are thine, and thou canſt turn the faireſt Proſpects of Happineſs to my Puniſhment and Miſery: And far be it from me, O God, to endeavour to reſcue them out of thy Hand by Fraud or Falſhood, or by uſing any diſhoneſt or unworthy Means to bring this or any other Purpoſe about; always remembring, that *he that walketh uprightly, walketh ſurely.* And let me wait thy Time, and think that always beſt; for thou only knoweſt what Things are joined to, and are the Conſequences of other, and what is fitteſt for me, and for my greateſt Happineſs; and haſt promiſed that all Things ſhall work together for Good to thoſe that love Thee: In Confidence hereof, let me reſt ſatisfy'd with that State and Condition (whatever it be) that thou in thy Wiſdom and Goodneſs ſhalt order me. O Lord, vouchſafe to hear my Prayers, which I offer through the Mediation of Jeſus Chriſt my Saviour. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a married Man in behalf of his Wife.*

O Almighty God and merciful Father, who by thy Wiſdom and Providence haſt appointed the ſeveral Places and Stations of Men in this World: Thou haſt called me to the State of Marriage, which is honourable, becauſe inſtituted by thee; and which thou haſt ordained for the Comfort and Happineſs of us thy Creatures, and for many other wiſe and good Ends. Sanctifie it to me, I humbly beſeech thee, and grant that I may never abuſe it to any baſe or unworthy Purpoſes; but ſo behave my ſelf under this, and all other Conditions of my Life, as becomes the Servant of the ever-bleſſed Jeſus.

To this End, O Lord, give me a meek and gentle Spirit, a Spirit of Love, and Kindneſs, and Charity, that is not eaſily provoked, nor apt to entertain angry and unkind Reſentments; that I may love my Wife with a hearty and ſincere Affection.

Let

Let me never exerciſe that Authority thou haſt given me, in a ſevere, abitrary, and tyrannical Manner; but with Kindneſs and Condeſcenſion, Prudence and Diſcretion, endeavouring as much as in me lies, to make my Wife eaſie and happy all her Days; and grant that ſhe may never, by any Follies or Extravagance of mine, be made miſerable while I live, nor left deſtitute and unprovided when I die.

Make me faithful and conſcientious, O Lord, in the Diſcharge of that ſolemn Vow and Promiſe which I made upon my entring into this holy State, and of thoſe Duties which it engages me to: O let me never wander after ſtrange and forbidden Pleaſures, nor be inordinate in the Uſe of thoſe that are lawful; but grant that all my Actions may be governed by the Rules of Purity and Holineſs, of Juſtice and Sobriety, having always before my Eyes that ſtrict Account which I muſt one Day give.

O let me never waſte and conſume my Time and Subſtance in Surfeiting and Drunkenneſs, in Riot and Diſorder; but grant that by Diligence and Induſtry, and by

by thy Bleſſing accompanying all my Endeavours, I may be enabled to provide for my Wife and Children in ſuch a manner, as may conduce to their Happineſs both here and hereafter.

O let thy Bleſſing reſt upon the Head of her whom thou haſt given to be my Wife: give her length of Days, (if it be thy bleſſed Will) and increaſe in her ever more and more the Virtues of Meekneſs and Humility, of Kindneſs and Condeſcenſion, and all other Divine Virtues, that ſhe may be an Ornament to her Sex, and a real Bleſſing and Comfort to me.

Let all Strife and Contention, all Heat and Paſſion, Repinings and Diſcontent, be far from us; and let true Chriſtian Love and Peace dwell in our Hearts. Make us eminent Examples to all about us, of a holy and blameleſs Converſation; and grant that we may live together in an inviolable Bond of Love and Friendſhip, bearing with one another's Infirmities, and ſtudying to promote the Welfare and Happineſs, the Support and Comfort of each other: O make us ſo faithful to diſcharge all our Duties in this Life, that when

thou ſhalt be pleaſed to take us hence, we may dwell with thee in Life everlaſting, through the Merits of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a married Woman in behalf of her Husband.*

O Almighty God! Thou art the Sovereign Lord of Heaven and Earth, and ordereſt and diſpoſeſt all Things, and all Perſons, as it ſeemeth beſt to thy godly Wiſdom: Thou haſt been pleaſed to call me to the State of Marriage, which is honourable, becauſe inſtituted by thee, and which thou haſt ordained for the Comfort and Happineſs of us thy Creatures, and for many other wiſe and good Ends. Sanctify it to me, I humbly beſeech thee, and grant that I may behave my ſelf under this, and all other Conditions of my Life, as becomes the Servant of the ever bleſſed Jeſus.

To this End, O Lord, give me a meek and humble Spirit, a Spirit of Love and Gen-

Gentleneſs, that is not eaſily provoked, nor apt to entertain angry and unkind Reſentments; that I may never be guilty of any unbecoming Carriage towards him, whom thou haſt given to be my Husband; but that I may love, honour, and obey him, as thou haſt commanded me, and I have moſt ſolemnly engaged to do.

Let me never be of the Number of thoſe who think hardly of thy Laws, which I am ſenſible, O Lord, and fully perſuaded, are juſt and reaſonable, and highly conducing to the Good of thy Creatures: And ſince thou haſt thought fit that Wives ſhould be in Subjection to their Husbands, grant that I may never be found to oppoſe thy Will, but readily and chearfully ſubmit to his Authority, whom thou haſt been pleaſed to ſet over me.

Deliver me, O my God, from all Pride and Vanity, from all Affectation and Self-Conceit; and ſuffer me not, I beſeech thee, to employ my Thoughts and Study, how to adorn a corruptible Body, (which will ſhortly be ſtript of all its gay Attire, and be a Prey to Worms and Rottenneſs) and in the mean time neglect

to cultivate and improve my Mind, that better and nobler Part; but grant that I may labour to adorn my Soul with heavenly Graces and good Diſpoſitions, and may eſteem the Ornament of a meek and quiet Spirit, which is in thy Sight of ſo great Price, far more beautiful and becoming than all that outward Dreſs and Gaiety, which fooliſh People ſo much doat on.

O let me never be conformed to the wicked Cuſtoms of the World, nor waſte my precious Hours in unprofitable Amuſements, much leſs in the Purſuit of thoſe vain and ſinful Pleaſures, which wound and debaſe the Soul, and which (how pleaſing ſoever they may now appear) will one Day end in bitter and ſevere Reflections: But, Lord, do thou inſpire me with a Love to Virtue and Religion, and to thoſe Pleaſures which are above; that all my Recreations and Diverſions, all my Buſineſs and Employments, may be ſuch as are ſuitable to the Condition wherein thou haſt placed me, and as becomes a Woman profeſſing Godlineſs.

Grant,

Grant, O gracious Lord, that not only my Thoughts and Deſires may be chaſte and pure, but that all my outward Actions and Behaviour may be agreeable thereto, free from all juſt Cauſe of Suſpicion and Offence, and not ſo much as ſullied with the leaſt Appearance of Evil.

O make me faithful and conſcientious in the Diſcharge of all thoſe Duties, to which the State I am now in engages me.

Finally, O Lord, I beſeech thee to ſend thy Bleſſing upon my Husband; give him Length of Days (if it be thy bleſſed Will) and increaſe in him ever more and more the Graces of thy Holy Spirit. Grant that I may do all that in me lies, to make his Life eaſie and comfortable, by a kind and obliging Conduct and Behaviour towards him, and by conforming my ſelf to all his juſt and reaſonble Deſires.

Let all Strife and Contention, all Heat and Paſſion, Repinings and Diſcontent, be far from us; and let true Chriſtian Love and Peace dwell in our Hearts: Make us eminent Examples to all about

us, of a holy and blameleſs Converſation; and grant that we may live together in an inviolable Bond of Love and Friendſhip, bearing with one another's Infirmities, and ſtudiouſly endeavouring to promote the Welfare and Happineſs of each other: O make us ſo faithfully to diſcharge all our Duties in this Life, that when thou ſhalt be pleaſed to take us hence, we may dwell with thee in Life everlaſting, through the Merits of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer to be uſed either by a Father or Mother for their Children.*

O Lord, make me a kind and tender Parent, truly careful and ſollicitous to promote the Welfare and Happineſs of my Children. Let thy good Spirit aſſiſt me to form in their tender Minds the Principles of Virtue and Religion, to teach them to remember Thee their Creator in the

the Days of their Youth, and to bring them up in thy Fear and Love; Let me make it my conſtant Care and Endeavour to wean them from all Pride and Vanity, and to ſet before them the Example of a holy and religious Life.

O let the powerful Efficacy of thy good Spirit root out of their Hearts all corrupt and ſinful Affections; and inſtead thereof, do thou ſow the incorruptible Seed of thy Grace, that they may become Partakers of thy Divine Nature, and may bring forth in their Lives the Fruits of Righteouſneſs and true Holineſs.

Defend them, O Lord, I beſeech thee, againſt the Evils and Temptations of this World, and grant that they may never be led away by the wicked Cuſtoms and Examples, the Luſts and Vanities of it; but obediently keeping thy holy Will and Commandments, and walking in the ſame all the Days of their Lives, they may be Inſtruments of thy Glory, by doing Good in their Generations; and after they have ſerved thee faithfully in this World, they may hereafter be made Partakers of everlaſting Happineſs in that

which is to come, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Maſter or Miſtreſs.*

O GOD, make me, I beſeech thee, a kind and gentle Maſter, forbearing all cruel and ſevere Uſage towards thoſe thou haſt placed in Subjection under me, as knowing I have a Maſter in Heaven, with whom is no Reſpect of Perſons. Let me never be ſo wicked, as to put my Servants upon Cheating and Lying, or any other baſe or unworthy Practices; but give me a tender Care and Concern for their Souls, that they may never periſh through any Neglect or Fault of mine.

Let me imitate the Example of thy Servant *Joſhua*, and reſolve that both I and my Houſe will ſerve thee. To which End, give us Grace daily to offer up our joint Prayers and Praiſes to thy Divine Majeſty, and to be frequent in attending upon the Publick Offices of Religion,

ligion, and to ſpend ſome Part of the Lord's-Day together in Prayer and other holy Duties. Grant this for the Sake of Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon in Private, upon any Day of* Publick Faſting *and* Humiliation ; *which may be uſed after the Morning Service of the Day is over.*

O Moſt Great and Mighty GOD! Thou art a conſuming Fire to all rebellious and diſobedient Sinners, but a moſt tender and compaſſionate Father to ſuch as truly repent and turn unto thee: Thou art a God of infinite Power, Holineſs, and Purity; thou loveſt Righteouſneſs, and hateſt Iniquity, and who can ſtand in thy Sight when thou art angry? O Lord, when I conſider the Greatneſs of thy Majeſty, and reflect upon my own Nothingneſs and Vileneſs, I am afraid to ſpeak unto thee. But, O bleſſed God, thou

haſt vouchſafed to declare thy ſelf a God gracious and merciful, forgiving Iniquity, Tranſgreſſion and Sin.

Hear me therefore, O moſt merciful Father, and look with Pity upon me, who, in the behalf of my ſelf, and of the ſinful People of this Land, fall low on my Knees before thee, begging for Mercy and Pardon at the Throne of Grace.

O Lord, I do moſt ſorrowfully confeſs, that we are a wicked and rebellious People, notwithſtanding the manifold, and often repeated Mercies which thou haſt vouchſafed us. Thou haſt ſhewn us wonderful Things in thy Goodneſs, O God of our Salvation, and haſt hitherto protected both our Church and Nation from ſecret Treachery, and open Violence. Thou haſt continued to us the Light of thy glorious Goſpel, the Benefit of thy Word and Sacraments; thou haſt preſerved to us our holy Religion, reformed from thoſe Errors and Corruptions, which prevail in many other Nations; and haſt bleſſed us with Liberty, Safety, and Plenty; whilſt ſo many of our Brethren Abroad are perſecuted and enſlaved, and

whilſt

whilſt other Countries have groaned under the Miſeries and Calamities of Tyranny, Bloodſhed, and Ruin. Thou haſt given us fruitful Seaſons, and many other great and invaluble Bleſſings; and for many Years haſt preſerved us from Famine, Peſtilence, and Earthquakes, and from Civil and Inteſtine Wars; and when thou haſt corrected us, it has been like a kind and tender Father, in Mercy and Gentleneſs, letting us ſee, that not our Ruine, but our Amendment was intended thereby.

And now, O Lord, after all theſe Obligations, all theſe Bleſſings, what manner of Perſons ought we to have been in all holy Converſation and Godlineſs? But alas! to our Shame and Confuſion it muſt be confeſſed, that we have ſhewn our ſelves very unworthy of theſe thy Mercies; and inſtead of making ſuitable Returns for thy Goodneſs and Loving Kindneſs, have, by a long Courſe of Sin and Rebellion, greatly provoked thy Wrath and Indignation againſt us. We have blaſphemed that holy Name whereby we are called, and by our enormous Practices, have made our Lives as notorious for Vice,

Vice, as they ſhould have been eminent for Virtue and Piety.

We have abuſed our Plenty, by Riot and Luxury; our Liberty by Licentiouſneſs; our Eaſe and Safety, by Strife, and Envyings, and Diviſions amongſt our Selves. We have not expreſſed a due Senſe of the ineſtimable Benefits of the Goſpel, nor brought forth Fruits worthy of it; but while we call our ſelves Chriſtians, commit ſuch Things as ought not ſo much as to be named among us. Nay, O Lord, ſo little do we retain of the Power of Godlineſs, that many among us have now caſt off the very Form thereof, denying the Lord that bought them, and all the Revelations that he has made of his Will; trampling upon all that is Sacred, and not only think, but ſay, there is no God.

This, O Lord, is the ſad and deplorable State of this ſinful Nation; which I unfeignedly grieve for, and lament before thee; and the more, becauſe my own Sins (with Sorrow I confeſs it) have contributed to fill up the Meaſure of our Iniquities.

I confeſs, O God, that I have grievouſly offended thee, by (*Here you may name your particular Sins.*)

It is of thy Mercy, O God, that we are not conſumed, and becauſe thy Compaſſions fail not: for ſhould'ſt thou have dealt with us after our Sins, and rewarded us according to our Iniquities, we had long before this been like as *Sodom* and *Gomorrah*, or ſwept away by ſome other ſudden and ſevere Deſtruction.

But, O merciful Father, thou haſt ſhewn thy ſelf to be a God gracious and merciful, ſlow to Anger, and of great Kindneſs, not willing that any ſhould periſh, but that all ſhould come to Repentance: Thou haſt ſpared us when we deſerved Puniſhment, and in the midſt of Judgment haſt remembred Mercy.

In Mercy, O God, awaken us all to a true and deep Senſe of our manifold and often repeated Provocations; and for thy Name's Sake, and for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, pardon the great and crying Sins of this whole Nation; and in a more particular manner, I beſeech thee to pardon me, who now humble my ſelf before thee, and forgive all

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my Sins, which have helped to increaſe thy ſevere Diſpleaſure againſt us.

Waſh away all our Sins in the Blood of the ever-bleſſed Jeſus: And Oh! be thou reconciled unto us, who are now ſeeking unto thee in Faſting and Prayer: Spare thy People, O good Lord, ſpare them; and grant that we may ſo turn from all our evil Ways, that Iniquity may not be our ruine.

Make us, in this our Day, to ſee the Things that belong to our Peace, before they are hid from our Eyes; leaſt that dreadful Day come upon us, when all Opportunity of reconciling our ſelves to our offended God ſhall be taken from us.

And do thou ſo effectually convince every one of us of the great Evil of Sin, and what dreadful Puniſhments will inevitably fall upon thoſe that perſiſt in it, that we may forſake all our Sins and Wickedneſs, and turn unto thee the Lord our God. Fill us with ſuch a godly Sorrow for our Sins, as may work in us a true Repentance not to be repented of; and grant that we may now be ſo truly humbled for them, that this may be ſuch a Faſt as thou haſt choſen: A Faſt that

that may looſe the Bands of Wickedneſs wherewith we have been ſo long tyed and bound, that we may be ſet free from every evil Way, and may no longer abuſe thy Mercies, nor deſpiſe thy Judgments; but may become a peculiar People zealous of good Works; that ſo thou may'ſt turn from thy Diſpleaſure againſt us, and delight over us to do us Good, to build us up, and not to deſtroy us.

Hear, O Lord, and anſwer my Prayers, that go not out of feigned Lips: O let them prevail with thee for Mercy for my ſelf and all this People; even ſuch a Meaſure of thy Grace, as will at length reclaim us, through the Merits and Interceſſion of thy dear Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

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## *A Prayer upon the ſame Occaſion; which may be uſed after the Evening Service.*

O GOD, thou art Great, and doſt wondrous Things, thou art God alone! Thou takeſt Ven-

Vengeance of thoſe that contemn thy Laws, but haſt in all Ages wonderfully condeſcended to the Interceſſions of thy Servants, which have feared thee, and called upon thy Name; behold with Pity and Compaſſion this Church and Nation, now humbling it ſelf before thee; accept our Humiliation, and hear the Prayers which have been this Day offered up at the Throne of Grace; and grant they may be effectual, through the Interceſſion of thy dear Son, to obtain Mercy and Pardon for the ſinful People of this Land.

O Lord, I confeſs that thou may'ſt juſtly be diſpleaſed with us, for our great and manifold Provocations, and that we are no more worthy to be called or dealt with as thy Sons or Servants, whom neither thy Judgments have driven, nor thy Mercies led to Repentance: O be thou graciouſly pleaſed to look upon us in the Son of thy Love, and give us ſuch a deep Senſe of the Evil of our Doings, that we may truly repent of, and ſo effectually turn from all our Tranſgreſſions, that thou may'ſt be reconciled, and at Peace with us; and that our Humiliation and Repentance may ſo effectually work upon every

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one of us, that we may cleanſe our ſelves from all Filthineſs both of Fleſh and Spirit, perfecting Holineſs in thy Fear; and that inſtead of thoſe abominable and crying Sins, which ſo openly now reign among us, Religion, and all the bleſſed Fruits of it, may flouriſh and increaſe in this Land.

Remove from us, O merciful Father, the Evils which our Sins have brought upon us, and avert thoſe dreadful Judgments, which we have juſt Cauſe to fear; and however thou may'ſt think fit to puniſh and correct us, yet take not from us, O Lord, I beſeech thee, the Light of thy glorious Goſpel; but grant that it may break in ſo powerfully upon all our Hearts, that we may ſee the great Danger we are in, and may reſolve in good Earneſt to give up our ſelves to thy Obedience.

Stir up, O God, every Soul among us, to root out of our Hearts all Pride, and Wrath, and Bitterneſs; all Hatred, Malice, and Deſire of Revenge; and whatſoever may hinder us from diſcerning and practiſing the Things that belong to our Peace; and inſpire every one of us with true

true Chriſtian Love and Charity, with Meekneſs of Wiſdom, Lowlineſs of Mind, Patience, Long-ſuffering, and forbearing one another in Love, that we may all henceforth be united in one holy Bond of Truth and Peace, of Faith and Charity, and may with one Heart, and one Soul, join together in promoting the Honour and Glory of thy Name, the Intereſt of Religion, and the Happineſs and Proſperity of theſe Kingdoms; that ſo thou, who art the God of Peace, may'ſt be our God, and dwell among us; and that we may be thy People, zealouſly devoted to thy Service and Obedience.

To this End, O Lord, I beſeech thee, to beſtow thy Bleſſings ſpiritual and temporal upon our moſt gracious Sovereign Lord King *GEORGE*, and all that are put in Authority under him, both in Church and State; bleſs them with Wiſdom from above, which is firſt pure, and then peaceable; and make all their Conſultations effectual to the Glory of thy great Name, the Preſervation of thy Church and true Religion among us, the Honour and Safety of his Majeſty, the Stability of our Times, and the Security, Peace, and Proſperity

ſperity of all Eſtates and Conditions of Men among us.

Make all Magiſtrates, and other inferiour Officers, faithful and conſcientious in the Diſcharge of that Truſt which thou haſt repoſed in them; and grant, that they being truly zealous for thy Glory, may conſtantly employ that Power which thou haſt given them, for the Puniſhment of Wickedneſs and Vice; that ſo the Sins of particular Perſons may not become National, nor through the Connivance or Encouragement of thoſe in Authority, bring down thy heavy Judgments upon us.

Be gracious, O God, to thy holy Catholick Church, eſpecially that Part of it which thou haſt planted in theſe Kingdoms; let no Deſign formed againſt it ever proſper; and grant, that all that name the Name of Chriſt may depart from Iniquity, and live ſuitably to their holy Profeſſion.

Look down with Mercy and Pity upon the ſad and mournful Eſtate of thoſe who now ſuffer for the Truth of thy Goſpel, and the Teſtimony of a good Conſcience; ſtrengthen their Faith, and animate their Courage;

Courage; and grant that no Perſecutions may ever drive them to a Denial of the Truth. Shew thy Self their mighty Deliverer, that all Men may ſee it, and ſay, Verily there is a God that judgeth in the Earth.

Enlighten all thoſe that are in Darkneſs and Error, and bring them to the Light, and Knowledee, and Practice of the Truth; and grant that all the Kingdoms of the World may be turned unto the Lord, and become one Flock, under the great Shepherd and Biſhop of our Souls, thy Son Jeſus Chriſt.

*What follows may properly be added in Time of War.*

Bleſs and proſper the great Undertaking which this Nation is now engaged in: Go forth with our Fleets and Armies; bleſs them with Victory and Succeſs; and ſuffer not our Sins to provoke thee ſo far, as to deliver us up into the Hands of our Enemies; but ſend us, in thy good Time, ſuch a Peace, as may tend to the Glory of thy great Name, the Preſervation of thy Church and true Religion among us, and the

the Honour, Safety and Proſperity of theſe Kingdoms.

Finally, O Lord, I pray thee to extend thy Mercy, even to thoſe that hate us, and who, without any juſt Cauſe are our Enemies: Diſappoint their Devices, and give them Repentance and better Minds; ſhed abroad thy Love in their Hearts, and endue them with a meek, humble, and charitable Spirit; and grant, that we being delivered from the Hands of our Enemies, may ſerve thee without Fear, in Holineſs and Righteouſneſs before thee, all our Days, through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Lord and only Saviour. *Amen.*

## *A Thankſgiving and Prayer in private, on a Day ſet apart by Authority for commemorating any National Bleſſing or Deliverance.*

" On which Occaſion may be alſo uſed " the General Thankſgiving.

BLeſſed and Glorious God, the Creator, Governour, and Judge of the World, our Deliverer, and

and continual Benefactor, I acknowledge thy great Bounty and Goodneſs to theſe Nations, as well as to my ſelf in particular.

I adore thy infinite Goodneſs, Wiſdom, and Power, whereby thou ſometimes pulleſt down one Nation, and ſetteſt up another; and at other Times makeſt one Nation to be a Bleſſing and Defence, or a Plague, or Scourge to another, in ſuch a manner as ſerves beſt the Intereſt of thy Church, and moſt manifeſts thy Providence over the World, and makeſt thy Goodneſs, thy Juſtice, and thy Power, to be known to the Kingdoms of it; to the Intent they ſhould not at any time truſt in the Arm of Fleſh, nor abuſe thy Bleſſings and Favours; but fear and love, ſerve and worſhip thee; who art a Rewarder of them that ſeek thee.

I render unfeigned Thanks unto thee, O moſt gracious God, that though for our Sins thou haſt juſtly raiſed up Enemies, that ſeek our Ruine, yet thou haſt not ſuffered them ſo to prevail againſt us, as to accompliſh their cruel Deſigns; but haſt hitherto afforded us Counſel and Strength

Strength to keep off all the dreadful Calamities and Miſeries of War, Deſolation, Diſtraction and Slavery.

I thank thee for that Meaſure of Tranquillity, Safety, and Peace, we enjoy; that we are not diſturbed by Civil Commotions, but poſſeſs in Safety the many good Things thou beſtoweſt upon us; and that we have a Courſe of Common Juſtice open to us; and for the wholſome Air and Health of theſe Countries.

I thank thee for the great Plenty and Fruitfulneſs of them; and the many good Things we, by thy good Providence, obtain from other Places; as well for Health and Pleaſure, as for Food and Nouriſhment.

I thank thee, who art the God of all Order, and the Sovereign Good, Happineſs and Defenee of all Societies and States, for the excellent Frame and Conſtitution of our Civil Government and Laws, and the wiſe and prudent Adminiſtration of them; for the Liberty and Freedom of our Perſons and Eſtates; whilſt ſome People live under Slavery, Tyranny, and Oppreſſion; and others are forced to ſtrange Countries for Liberty and Relief.

Bleſſed

Bleſſed be thy Name, O moſt merciful Lord God, that though for our Sins thou haſt frequently viſited this (City and) Country with thy Judgments, ſometimes by taking great Numbers of us away by Plague and Peſtilence; ſometimes by Fire, which conſumed our Goods, and waſted our Eſtates; and ſometimes by Storms and Tempeſts, which alſo waſted our Eſtates, and deſtroyed many of us, and weakned our Publick Defence againſt our Enemies; yet thou haſt always in thy Judgments remembred Mercy; and haſt not puniſhed us according to our Deſerts, nor left us without ſome ſpecial Marks of thy good Providence. More particularly, O Lord, I bleſs and praiſe thy holy Name for the Mercies which we this Day commemorate.

But above all thy Bleſſings and Mercies, I render moſt humble and unfeigned Thanks to thee, moſt gracious and merciful Lord God, for thy diſtinguiſhing Favours to theſe Kingdoms, in that thou haſt long ſince brought us out of Heatheniſh Darkneſs and Error, to the clear Light and true Knowledge of thee, and of

of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, and to a free Profeſſion of thy true Religion and Worſhip.

For the free Uſe of thy holy Word in our Mother-Tongue, which alſo is preached unto us in Simplicity and Purity, by the Paſtors and Miniſters of thy Church, whom thou haſt preſerved in a conſtant Succeſſion to teach and explain to us in theſe latter Days thy holy Will, and to ſtir us up to an Obedience thereof.

I thank thee for the free Uſe of thy holy Sacraments, and for all other the Means of Grace which we enjoy.

And for that thou haſt delivered us from Popiſh Superſtition and Error; and from ſundry Attempts that have been made to bereave us of thy true Religion and Worſhip eſtabliſhed amongſt us.

For theſe, and all other Bleſſings thou art pleaſed to give and continue to us; bleſſed and praiſed be thy holy Name, our Lord and Governour, who art excellent in all the Earth.

And, O Lord, I beſeech thee to hear the Prayers, and accept the Praiſes which have this Day been offered up unto thee, by the People of this Land; and give us

all ſuch a Senſe of thy great Goodneſs as may engage us to a true and ſuitable Thankfulneſs; ſuch as may appear in our Lives by a holy and obedient Walking before thee all our Days.

Suffer us not to wax wanton or proud, careleſs and ſecure, and to forget thee the Lord our God, who haſt wrought ſuch mighty Works for us; but let this be the bleſſed Fruit of all thy gracious Dealings towards us, that we may turn from the Evil of our Ways, and live as a People whom thou haſt choſen, in ſo many remarkable Inſtances, to be the peculiar Care of thy Providence.

Make us truly ſenſible, O Lord, that it is thou, and thou only, that haſt done theſe great Things for us; and, O let us never aſſume any Thing to our ſelves; but from the Conſideration of thy great Goodneſs towards us, walk humbly before thee; and ſo behave our ſelves in our ſeveral Places and Stations, with that Love to thee, and Charity to one another, with that dutiful Subjection to his Majeſty, with that Zeal for thy Honour and Glory, and with ſuch a ſtedfaſt Perſeverance in thy pure and undefiled Religion,

ligion, that thou may'ſt rejoice over us to do us Good, and may'ſt continue to us and our Poſterity the Bleſſings we now enjoy, and add to them ſuch other Mercies as thou in thy great Wiſdom and Goodneſs ſeeſt needful for us, through the Merits, and for the Sake of thy Son, and our alone Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon under Affliction.*



Moſt gracious God! who doſt not afflict willingly, nor grieve the Children of Men, I flee unto thee for Comfort and Support under the Troubles thou haſt laid upon me: I know aſſuredly, that this is thy Hand, and that thou, Lord, haſt done it. I acknowledge thy Judgments are right, that thou of very Faithfulneſs haſt cauſed me to be troubled, and that my Sins have deſerved more grievous Puniſhments than I now ſuffer. I am fully convinced, that the Events of this Life are not left to Chance or

Uncertainty, but are all under the ſteady and wiſe Diſpoſal of thy good Providence.

To thee therefore, O my God! do I direct my Supplications; beſeeching thee, O gracious God, who haſt a tender Love for all thy Creatures, and more eſpecially for thy faithful Servants, who repoſe all their Hope and Confidence in thy Mercy, to have Pity upon me, and to deal with me not according to my Sins, but after thine own great Mercy. Pardon, O Lord, all my paſt Sins; reſtore me to Peace and Favour with thee; conſider my Weakneſs, and let not my Troubles be more heavy or laſting than what thou ſeeſt profitable and neceſſary for the Good of my Soul.

Make me truly and deeply ſenſible of my Condition, that I may ſee the Rod, and who hath appointed it; that I may be truly ſenſible of the Evil of Sin, as well as feel the Smart of Puniſhment. Humble me under thy Corrections: Awaken me thereby to a more conſcientious and zealous Performance of my Duty, to a Senſe of my ſpiritual Wants, to a Hatred of every Thing that is diſpleaſing in thy Sight: And ſo ſanctify my preſent Af-

fliction,

fliction, that by the Help of thy good Spirit, it may bring forth in me all the Graces and Virtues of a Chriſtian Life, and accompliſh the End for which it was ſent.

Let the Experience of thy Love and Favour towards me, thoughout the whole Courſe of my Life paſt, teach me to reſign my ſelf entirely to thee; to chooſe thee for my only Support and Comfort; to rely ſtedfaſtly on all thy Promiſes; and to wait with Patience till thou ſhalt ſee fit to deliver me.

Direct and enable me to uſe all proper and honeſt Means for freeing my ſelf from my preſent Troubles: But however grievous they may prove, O let me not dare to do any Fraud or Injuſtice, or to caſt off my Dependance on thee, by calling in the Aſſiſtance of any of the Powers of Darkneſs for my Relief.

And if, for Reaſons beſt known to thine infinite Wiſdom, thou ſhalt ſee fit to continue this Affliction to me, thy bleſſed Will be done: Enable me patiently to bear, and contentedly to ſubmit to the Diſpenſations of thy good Providence, how contrary ſoever to Fleſh and Blood.

Suppreſs in me all murmuring and repining Thoughts: Remove from me all Inclinations and Averſions, but ſuch as agree with thoſe of the bleſſed Jeſus: Regulate my Affections and Deſires, and confine them to ſuch Objects only, as are well-pleaſing in thy Sight. Thou knoweſt the ſureſt Way of making me happy; thou art infinite in Wiſdom, Loving-Kindneſs and Mercy; therefore let thy bleſſed Will, in every Thing, be my Choice and Satisfaction: I humbly ſubmit to thy Fatherly Diſcipline; for thou correcteſt in Mercy, and for my Profit. If therefore thou takeſt not away thy Rod, yet take away thine Anger. Let me ſee a Fatherly Affection in all thy Chaſtiſements; and raiſe in my Soul an ardent Love and Deſire after thee, which may fill me with an inward Satisfaction, with Peace of Conſcience, and Joy in the Holy Ghoſt. Support and comfort me under all my Troubles; direct and counſel me in all Difficulties; carry me through all Tryals and Temptations, and in thy good Time take thy afflicting Hand from me: And grant that theſe light Afflictions, which (in compariſon) are but for a Moment, may work for

me

me an exceeding and eternal Weight of Glory. Hear me, O Lord, for thy Mercies ſake, and for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon troubled in Mind.*

I.

O Bleſſed Lord, the Father of Mercies, and the God of all Comfort; look down, I humbly beſeech thee, with Pity and Compaſſion, upon a miſerable Creature, under great Sorrow and Dejection of Mind.

I confeſs, O Lord, my Sins have deſerved much more grievous Puniſhments than I feel; and ſhould'ſt thou be extream to mark what I have done amiſs, I ſhould not be able to abide it. I will therefore betake my ſelf to the Throne of thy Grace, and plead before thee thy gracious Promiſes, and the wonderful Expreſſions of thy Love and Mercy.

I will come unto thee for Succour; for thou haſt graciouſly invited all thoſe that travail and are heavy laden. O pardon my Iniquities, that have provoked thy Wrath, and deliver me from the Sorrows and Miſeries which I feel and fear.

Have Mercy upon me, O God; for thou art my great Creator, and Almighty Preſerver. O receive me, and relieve me, and revive me. Take Pity upon my ſorrowful Soul; and deſtroy not thou the Works of thine own Hands. Shut not up thy tender Mercies in Diſpleaſure, but make me hear of Joy and Gladneſs, and to be ſenſible, that thou haſt ſtill the Bowels of a moſt tender Father.

I ſue unto thee for Mercy, in the Name of my Saviour the Bleſſed Jeſus, the great Mediator between God and Man: Regard that All-ſufficient Sacrifice, Oblation, and Satisfaction, which he made for all Mankind: Let it procure for me Pardon and Acceptance, who deſire unfeignedly to turn to thee: Let the Power of it prevail againſt all the Powers of Darkneſs: Let the Wiſdom of it make me wiſe unto Salvation: Let the Peace of it reconcile me

me to thee, and bring to me Peace of Conſcience, and Joy in the Holy Ghoſt.

II.

Eſpecially, O my God, preſerve me from all Diſtruſt and Deſpondency of thy Mercy; and all the ſad Effects of it. (" Let no Temptations ſo far " prevail with me, as to put " an end to my Days; but " let me conſider that I am " thy Creature, and that " thou only haſt a Right to diſpoſe of " my Life; and that it is my Duty to ſub- " mit to the greateſt Troubles, when thou " ſeeſt fit to lay them upon me.") *This may be added, when a Perſon is under Temptations to Self-Murder.*

Give me a right Underſtanding of my ſelf and my Condition; of thy Threats and Promiſes; that I may never caſt away my Confidence in thee, nor place it any where but in thee; but make me to ſee and know, that it is in great Mercy thou haſt now laid thine Hand upon me: O let me truly humble my ſelf under thine afflicting Hand; and let me rather feel thy Terrors, than not feel my Sins, which muſt inevitably have plunged me in endleſs Miſery, if thy wonderful Mercy

had not awakened my Conſcience, and given me a Sight of my Sins; and therefore, however ſevere this Affliction may at preſent ſeem to me, thy bleſſed Will be done: Bring me ſurely to thy ſelf, by what Methods thou pleaſeſt; and teach thy Servant to be content.

III.

And, O Lord, if in thine infinite Wiſdom thou ſhalt ſee fit not to grant a ſpeedy Anſwer to my Prayers; yet let me not thereby be utterly caſt down, as one without Hope; but make me to wait with Patience for thy good appointed Time, when thou wilt clear up my Doubts, and ſcatter my Fears, and remove my Sorrows, and make me know aſſuredly, that *it is good for me that I have been afflicted.* In the mean time, O Lord, ſtand by me in all my Tryals and Temptations; let not the Enemy of my Salvation prevail againſt me; but do thou comfort and aſſiſt me; and give me the Shield of Faith, whereby I may be able to quench all the fiery Darts of the Devil; that truſting in thee, and in thy Promiſes, I may at laſt be more than a Conquerour; look-

looking unto Jeſus, the great Captain of my Salvation, who was himſelf made perfect by Sufferings, and is now at the Right Hand of God, making continual Interceſſion for us.

IV.

Have Mercy upon me, O bleſſed Jeſu, thou compaſſionate Lover of Souls; I come unto thee, for thy Merits are infinite, and far ſurpaſs not only mine, but the whole World's Offences: I will therefore hope in thy Name, in thy Merits, and in thy Interceſſion; thou art Almighty, and art able to relieve me; thou art all Goodneſs, and therefore willing to aſſiſt me. I confeſs with Grief of Heart, that my Sins are many, and very great; but greater is thy Mercy to penitent Sinners. Great is the Malice of the Powers of Darkneſs, and great is my own Weakneſs; but much greater is thy Power and Goodneſs: Therefore when my Fears preſs hard upon me, I will hope in thy Mercy, and put my Truſt and Confidence in thee. The holy Scriptures aſſure me, that thou art able to ſave unto the utmoſt all that come unto God by thee; and thou haſt promiſed, that thoſe who

who come unto thee, thou wilt by no means caſt out: Hear me, I beſeech thee, O merciful Saviour, in this my diſtreſſed Condition; ſpeak Peace to my troubled Conſcience; comfort and ſupport me under all Dejections of Mind; give me Patience and Submiſſion under thine afflicting Hand, and, if it be thy Will, a ſpeedy and happy Deliverance from my preſent Miſery; and ſay unto my Soul, I am thy Salvation.

V.

Have Mercy upon me, O bleſſed Spirit, God of Love, thou powerful Advocate, and ſweeteſt Comforter: Infuſe thy Grace into my Heart, and ſcatter there thy chearful Beams. Purifie my Soul, and ſtrike me through with the Darts of thy Love: Kindle ſuch a holy Flame in my Breaſt, as may burn up all the Droſs of ſenſual Affections, and may poſſeſ, and purifie, and ſtrengthen my drooping Soul. Come, Holy Spirit, in much Mercy come, and make me fit to receive thee into my Heart: Diſpel thoſe black irregular Thoughts and Apprehenſions, which terrifie and diſcompoſe my Mind: And be

thou

thou to me a kind Comforter, and mighty Defence in all my Wants and Diſtreſſes, and my ready Helper in this Time of Need.

To him, therefore, who is able to keep us from falling, and to preſent us faultleſs before the Preſence of his Glory, with exceeding Joy; to the only wiſe God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghoſt, be Glory and Majeſty, Dominion and Power; and may'ſt thou receive from me, from Men, and Angels, continual Praiſe and Thankſgiving, Obedience, Love, and Adoration, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon under Scruples of Conſcience, or under Fears and Doubts of his ſpiritual Condition.*

I.

O Moſt bleſſed and gracious God, who only canſt heal a wounded Spirit, and quiet a troubled Mind; look with Pity on thy Servant, oppreſſed with a Load of Miſery: Unto

Unto thee do I cry for Help: O thou great Phyſician of Soul and Body, uphold and comfort my weak and dejected Spirit, ſtrengthen it againſt all inordinate vain Fears and Terrors, and deliver me from all unprofitable Troubles of Mind, and cauſeleſs Scruples of Conſcience.

Thou alone canſt relieve me; grant therefore, merciful Lord, to me thy Servant, Pardon and Peace; and that I may be cleanſed from all my Sins, and ſerve thee with a quiet Mind, and glorifie thy Goodneſs with a thankful and chearful Heart all my Days.

II.

I take little Delight in any Thing I do, no not in my ſpiritual Exerciſes, which once were, and ſtill ſhould be, moſt delightful to me. Eaſie Things are become difficult, and difficult Things ſeem almoſt impoſſible to me; and I am full of Fears, Jealouſies, and Suſpicions; but moſt of all am I apt to fear in this ſad Condition, that I have loſt thy Favour. I am greatly indiſpoſed for my own Buſineſs, loth to do any Thing, and find a great Backwardneſs even in Praying unto thee, O Lord, my Strength, and my Redeemer.

Direct

Direct me to proper Means for the Removal of my Doubts and Scruples, and let me hearken to the wise Counsels and Advice of a prudent spiritual Guide, and such other Persons, as I shall consult with; and make me always willing and ready to follow wise Instructions; and suffer me not to be led away by the Delusions of the Devil, or my own foolish and perverse Will.

O Lord, hear this Prayer, which in Anguish of Spirit I make unto thee, for Jesus Christ his Sake. *Amen.*

## III.

O thou blessed Jesus, who wast made Man, and in our Nature tookest our Infirmities (Sin only excepted) and wast a Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with Grief, and once in Anguish of Spirit upon the Cross, cryed'st out to thy Father, and our Father, *My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?* O thou most merciful, faithful, and unchangeable High-Priest, I beseech thee, by thy infinite Compassion, to look down from Heaven with an Eye of Pity upon me, who am a miserable Object of thy Pity, being sore let and hinder'd in the Course of my Christian Duties,

Duties, by unaccountable Sadneſs and Dejection of Spirit. Thou knoweſt, O Lord, how often, and how exceedingly my Soul is troubled, and caſt down; thou ſeeſt how much it is diſquieted within me, and how grievous it is to me to be thus oppreſſed; and how uneaſy my preſent State is.

I beſeech thee, O bleſſed Saviour, hear my Complaint, and take away this Plague from me. It is with this moſt earneſt Petition, that I now come before the Throne of thy Mercy. Remove this Diſtemper, I beſeech thee, whether it be in my Body, or in my Soul, or in both: O ſpeak the Word, and I ſhall be whole. I ask this in Submiſſion to thy Will and Pleaſure: If it is ſent to me to punish me for my paſt Sins, or reſtrain me from Sins to come, or to make me humble, or exerciſe my Patience and my Truſt in thee; not my Will, but thine be done. Make me content to bear it, though it be a very ſore Affliction; if thou ſhalt think fit to continue it, ſupport me under it with the Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit. But if I am fit for ſo great a Mercy, O let this Torment of Soul depart from me; that being

ing reſtored to an eaſie, free, chearful, and active Frame of Spirit, I may ſerve thee with more Delight and Vigour, in all the Duties of my heavenly Calling. Bleſſed Jeſus, my Saviour and Redeemer, let my Complaint come before thee.

## *A Prayer for a Perſon in a State of Poverty.*

O My God, infinite in Goodneſs, Power, and Wiſdom! on thee all Things depend; and thy Providence over-ruleth all Events: Riches and Plenty come from thee; and Poverty and Want are by thy Diſpenſation. I believe that for juſt and wiſe Reaſons, thou haſt allotted to Mankind very different States and Circumſtances of Life; and that thy good Providence hath deſigned my Benefit and Advantage, in all the temporal Evils, which have at any time happened unto me

I confeſs, O Lord, my Sins have deſerved much more ſevere Afflictions; and that thou art kind and merciful in all thy Dealings with me. Thou haſt thought fit to place me in a mean Condition, to deprive me of many Conveniencies of Life, and to exerciſe me in a State of Poverty: But thou haſt hitherto preſerved and ſupported me by thy good Providence, and haſt bleſs'd me with Advantages * above ſome others, who labour under great Tryals and Afflictions. And above all, I enjoy the Light of thy glorious Goſpel, and the Means of Grace, when many of my Fellow-Chriſtians are debarred of theſe moſt valuable Comforts, and lie groaning under Perſecution, Miſery and Torments. I conſider, with humble Acknowledgment and Thankfulneſs, that I am ſtill alive, and have the Opportunity of working out my Salvation; whereas many poor Souls are given up to the juſt Puniſhment of Sin, groaning out a ſad Eternity under inexpreſſible Pains, and unconceivable Miſeries. Theſe, O Lord, very great Mercies to-

* *Here let the Perſon recollect the Bleſſings he enjoys, as the invaluable Mercy of Health, the Aſſiſtance of Friends, Liberty*, &c.

towards me, and muſt ſilence my Complaints, if thou ſhould'ſt ſee fit to try me with greater Difficulties, than what thou haſt hitherto laid upon me.

But, O merciful Father, who haſt commanded and invited us to lay our Wants and Neceſſities before thee, help and relieve me, I beſeech thee, under my preſent Circumſtances; and if thou ſeeſt fit, bleſs me with ſuch a Portion of the Comforts and Conveniencies of Life, that thereby I may be enabled to go on more chearfully in my Station, to ſerve thee better, to love thee more and more, and more admire thy wonderful Bounty and Loving-Kindneſs towards me. Give me Health and Strength, and Abilities ſuited to my Circumſtances; direct me in the Uſe of honeſt Means, whereby I may obtain *(for my ſelf and Family)* a comfortable Subſiſtence; and do thou ſucceed and proſper my honeſt Labours and Endeavours.

But, O Lord, if in this I know not what I ask; if greater Plenty, and the Comforts that attend it, are not convenient, but would prove Snares and Temptations to me, thy bleſſed Will be done: Support

port me, that I fall not into extreme Want; lay not more upon me, than thou ſhalt enable me to bear.

Supply the Want of worldly Bleſſings, by the Comfort and Support of thy good Spirit, whereby I may be made perfect in every good Work to do thy Will; that I may become rich in Faith, and an Heir of that Kingdom which thou haſt promiſed to thoſe that love thee: Make me devout, holy, and heavenly-minded; and ſo purifie and cleanſe my Heart, that it may become an Habitation for thy Holy Spirit.

Enable me likewiſe, O Lord, to exerciſe all thoſe Chriſtian Graces and Duties, which my preſent Circumſtances call for from me; let the Sharpneſs of temporal Wants put me upon conſidering what Miſery muſt attend the Loſs of my Soul: Let a Senſe of my Poverty ſtir up eager Deſires after the true Riches; and the leſs I have of this World, the more careful let me be to provide for the next; that I may ſeek an Inheritance incorruptible, and that fadeth not away: Let bodily Hardſhips convince me of the great Evil of ſpiritual Wants; that I may hunger

ger and thirſt after Righteouſneſs. Give me Diligence and Induſtry in my Calling; and when I have done my Endeavour, make me to caſt all my Care upon thee, and to truſt thy Fatherly Goodneſs to provide for me. Let not the Contempt which ſome Perſons wrongfully caſt upon Poverty, or any Evil which I may endure, tempt me to any diſhoneſt Ways of getting; but let me chooſe rather to be poor than wicked, and to want any Thing rather than thy Favour. Cloath me with a meek, and quiet, and humble Spirit, which in thy Sight is of great Price: Give me a thorough Contentedneſs in my preſent Circumſtances; let me not dare to repine at my own Condition, or envy the Proſperity of others; but teach me to poſſeſs my Soul in Patience; that I may acknowledge thy Right and Sovereignty over me, and that thou art juſt, and wiſe, and merciful in all thy Diſpenſations. Convince me of thy Fatherly Love, and enable me chearfully to reſign my ſelf to thy All-wiſe Providence.

Teach me to look unto Jeſus, the Author and Finiſher of our Faith; who, to recon-

reconcile us to a State of Poverty, choſe to be born, and to live in a mean Condition, enduring Hunger, and Thirſt, and Cold, and not having where to lay his Head; that by his Example I may be encouraged to ſit looſe to the World, and wean my Affections from temporal Objects; that being convinced of the Vanity and Emptineſs of this World, I may more and more delight my ſelf in thy Love, and in the Practice of true Religion.

And do thou, O God, quicken and enlarge my Deſires after ſpiritual Happineſs, and thoſe Pleaſures which are at thy Right Hand for evermore; that through Faith and Patience, having finiſhed the Race which thou haſt ſet before me, I may be received into the Joy of my Lord. Grant this, O merciful Father, for the ſake of my Redeemer, the ever-bleſſed Jeſus. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a meek and quiet Spirit.*

O Bleſſed Lord God, thou moſt compaſſionate Lover of Souls! Look with thy tendereſt Pity upon me, a weak and frail Creature, who am encompaſs'd about with many and great Infirmities; my Nature is corrupt, my Paſſions are ſtrong and violent, and ſo prone am I to Peeviſhneſs and Anger, that almoſt every ſlight Provocation diſorders my Mind, makes me froward and impatient, and many times (alas! with Sorrow I confeſs it) I have been hurried away into fooliſh and unreaſonable Paſſions.

O Lord, I lament and bewail this wretched Corruption of my Nature, humbly beſeeching thee, for the Sake and Merits of my bleſſed Saviour, to pardon and forgive all that Sin and Folly that it has betray'd me to, and I beg of thee, O merciful Father, to give me a meek and quiet Spirit, a patient and forgiving Temper, an humble,

ble, charitable, and chriſtian Diſpoſition; that my Mind may at all Times be quiet and eaſie, my Carriage gentle, kind, and obliging to all Men, and the whole Conduct and Deportment of my Life, ſuch as becomes the Servant of the meek and bleſſed Jeſus.

Convince me truly, O Lord, of the great Folly of Paſſion and Anger; how contrary it is to the Spirit of thy moſt holy Religion, which commands us to put away all Bitterneſs, and Wrath, and Anger; what an Enemy it is to our preſent Happineſs, and how much it unfits us for the Duties which we owe to thee, our Neighbour, and our ſelves.

Let the Example of my bleſſed Saviour be powerfully preſent to my Mind, and inſpire me with an humble, charitable, and forgiving Temper. Let me conſider, with what Meekneſs and Patience he endured the Contradictions of Sinners, and the Inſults and Reproaches of wicked and unreaſonable Men; that like him, I may be meek and lowly in Heart, and find that Reſt unto my Soul, which he has promiſed to thoſe that will be taught of him.

O my God, it is my ſincere Deſire, and

it

it ſhall be the hearty Endeavour of my Life to be free from the Bondage and Dominion of Sin; but, alas! I am a weak and feeble Creature; I find a Law in my Members warring againſt the Law of my Mind, which, without the Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit, will bring me into Captivity to the Law of Sin; O let the mighty Power of thy Grace ſtrengthen my feeble Wiſhes and Endeavours, and enable me to conquer my moſt inveterate Habits: Let the ſweet and gentle Influences of thy bleſſed Spirit calm the Paſſions, and compoſe the Storms and Diſorders of my Soul; and O do thou ſave me from the Dangers of this troubleſome and tempeſtuous Life.

Root out of my Heart, O merciful God, all Pride and Vanity, all Malice, Hatred, and Ill-will, and give me a low and humble Opinion of my ſelf, that the Senſe of my own Unworthineſs, and of the many Offences which I have been guilty of towards thee, may move me to pity the Weakneſſes and Infirmities of others, and to forgive the greateſt Injuries and Provocations which I ſhall meet with, remembring how much more I ſtand in need of Pity and Forgiveneſs at thy Hands.

Take away from me, O Lord, the Spirit of this World, and fill me with that Spirit of Love and Charity, that ſuffereth long, and is kind; that beareth all Things, and is not eaſily provoked; that being full of that Peace of God, which paſſes all Underſtanding, I may live with Comfort, and die with Joy, and may hereafter dwell in thoſe peaceful Regions of everlaſting Bliſs, where thou, O bleſſed Jeſus, who art the Prince of Peace, liveſt and reigneſt with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, World without end. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer to be uſed in Time of Temptation.*



God, our Refuge and Strength, who art a preſent Help in Time of Need, I fly unto thee for Succour againſt the Face of my Enemy, who has now lift up his Hand againſt me: His Strength is mighty, and his Malice great; and I, alas! weak, and unable to withſtand his Aſſaults: But,

But, O thou, who art greater than all Things, ſend down thy Help from above, and reſcue me out of the Jaws of the devouring Lion; ſave me, and deliver me from the Temptations I am now under. In thee, O Lord, have I put my Truſt, O let me never be put to Confuſion; and however thou may'ſt think fit to make Tryal of my Love and Obedience, yet ſuffer me not, I beſeech thee, to be tempted above what I am able to bear; but make me a Way to eſcape, that I may not ſin againſt thee.

Lord, I have no Strength of my own, but all my Hope, and all my Dependance is in thy Almighty Power and Goodneſs; thou art the Rock of Ages, and the Help of all that put their Truſt in Thee; I know thy Grace is ſufficient for me; O deny it not then to thy Servant, who now needs it, and moſt earneſtly deſires it; and though I am not worthy of the leaſt of all thy Mercies, yet, O merciful Father, have Compaſſion on me, and help me, that I may not be vanquiſhed in this Time of Tryal and Temptaion.

To this end, O Lord, make me ſeriouſly to conſider the great Folly and Danger of Sin; that all its Pleaſures are ſhort and momentary, but its Puniſhment endleſs and intolerable; that no Satisfactions can compare with the Joys of a good Conſcience, nor any Trouble like that of a wounded Spirit: Convince me powerfully, O my God, how terrible a Thing it is to fall under thy Diſpleaſure; that what I am now tempted to, is hateful in thy Sight, a direct Contradiction to thy Will, a Breach of my Baptiſmal Engagements; and how pleaſant ſoever it may now appear, yet that there will come a Time, when this and all other the Allurements of this World will appear vain and contemptible; a Time, when all Workers of Iniquity ſhall periſh; when they ſhall call upon the Mountains and Rocks to fall on them, and to hide them from the Face of him that ſitteth on the Throne, and from the Wrath of the Lamb; and when a Crown of Righteouſneſs ſhall be given to them, who have fought the good Fight, and kept the Faith.

O let me be ſo fully perſwaded of the Truth of theſe Things, that I may turn away my Ears from the deceitful Tempter, and reſolve to have no fellowſhip with the unfruitful Works of Darkneſs; let me reſiſt the firſt Motions of Sin in my Mind, and fly from the Company and Converſation of thoſe that would ſeduce me to Evil, and betake my ſelf to thoſe Means, which Reaſon and Religion, and the Dictates of thy Holy Spirit, ſhall inſtruct me, are proper to ſubdue the Temptations I am now under: And, Oh! let the mighty Power of thy Grace animate my Courage, and ſtrengthen my Faith, that nothing may ſtop me in my Chriſtian Warfare; but that fighting manfully under Chriſt's Banner, againſt the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil, I may at laſt triumph with him in his heavenly Kingdom, where there ſhall be no more Conflict with Sin, but I ſhall love and praiſe thee throughout all Ages. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a Perſon under Doubts of the Lawfulneſs of any Action.*

O Lord God, thou art Light, and in thee is no Darkneſs at all; thou art the Inſtructor of the Ignorant, the Light of thoſe that are in Darkneſs and Error, and the Fountain of all Wiſdom, and Knowledge, and Truth; I deſire above all Things to pleaſe thee, and to do thy Will; and it is a Trouble and Grief to me to conſider, that I have ſo often acted contrary to it; O that I may never do ſo again, that I may never more turn aſide to the dark Paths of Sin and Folly! O give me a wiſe and underſtanding Spirit, that I may know my Duty, and a Heart fully bent and determined to practiſe it.

More particularly, O Lord, I addreſs my ſelf to thee at this Time, to enlighten my Underſtanding, and inform my unſettled Judgment, how to determine ſafely in the Matter, which at preſent I know not how to act in. Shew thou me the Way that I ſhould walk in, and leave me

me not to the Weakneſs of my own Reaſoning, which, without thy enlightning Grace, will lead me into the Ways of Error and Confuſion.

Give me, O Lord, I beſeech thee, ſuch an honeſt and upright Heart, that nothing in the World may be ever able to ſeduce me from my Integrity. Let not the Example of a Multitude perſuade me to do Evil, nor the moſt powerful Allurements of Riches, Honour, or any other worldly Advantage, turn me aſide from thy Commandments; but convince me more and more, how little it will profit me to gain the whole World, and loſe my own Soul; that being poſſeſs'd with an awful Fear of thy Diſpleaſure, I may never dare to do any Thing but what thou approveſt, and of which I may be able to give a comfortable Account at the great Day of the Lord Jeſus.

Direct me, O my God, to thoſe Means, which will inform my Underſtanding, and ſatisfie my Doubts; and if it ſhould be my Misfortune, after all my Enquiries, to fall into any unwilling Error and Miſtake, O Lord, lay it not to my Charge, nor let it ever provoke thy Anger againſt me.

But, O Lord, if it is thy good Pleaſure, that I ſhould ſtill remain under Doubts, give me Grace, I beſeech thee, to ſubmit to thy Will, and to wait with Patience, till thou ſeeſt fit to inſtruct me better; and whatever Advantage, as to this World, I may loſe by it, yet let me ſtill retain my Innocence, and have the Comfort and Support of a good Conſcience. Suffer me not to be ſo regardleſs of my eternal Intereſt, as for the Sake of any temporal Advantage to forfeit thy Favour, which is better than all the Enjoyments of this World.

O Lord, I leave my ſelf in thy Hands; and I moſt humbly beſeech thee, to carry me through this and all other Difficulties, and bring me to that bleſſed Place of Reſt and Peace, where I ſhall be out of all Temptation, and Danger of offending thee, and where I ſhall love and praiſe thee throughout all Ages.

Grant this, O merciful Father, for the Sake, and through the Merits of my dear Redeemer Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

## *A Thankſgiving for Deliverance from any Trouble or Affliction, either in Body or Mind.*

O My God, infinite in Goodneſs; I thy unworthy Servant, who have ſo deeply taſted of thy Fatherly Love, deſire with a greateful Heart to ſpeak of thy Bounty and Loving-kindneſs towards me. I adore, and bleſs, and praiſe thy Holy Name, for all thy Mercies, both ſpiritual and temporal, from time to time beſtowed upon me; particularly, O Lord, I admire thy Goodneſs for delivering me from [*thoſe bodily Afflictions, Troubles of Mind, or State of Poverty*, &c.] wherewith I have lately been exerciſed. Thou, O Lord, haſt perfected thy Strength in my Weakneſs: Thou haſt graciouſly heard my Prayer; thou haſt conſidered my Trouble, and known my Soul in Adverſity: Therefore will I praiſe the Lord ſo long as I live; ſo long as I have any Being, I will give Thanks unto my God.

*This is to be altered according to the particular Caſe.*

And, I beſeech thee, O my God, let the due Remembrance of thy Mercies ſo thoroughly affect my Soul, that I may be aſhamed, as well as afraid to offend thee; that the Remainder of my Life may be dedicated to the Service of my God, who hath dealt ſo bountifully with me. Make me to place my chiefeſt Joy and Satisfaction in running the Ways of thy Commandments, now thou haſt ſet my Heart at liberty.

And, O Lord, I beſeech thee to pity and relieve all thoſe who now labour under the like Difficulties, from which thou haſt graciouſly delivered thy Servant, or any other Adverſity. Give them Patience and Comfort under their Afflictions, and ſuch a reaſonable Truſt and Confidence in thee, as may be well-pleaſing in thy Sight, that they may not be aſhamed of their Hopes; and in thy good Time deliver them from all their Troubles: And let thy Goodneſs excite me to help ſuch as I know in any Difficulty, according as I am able; that we all may praiſe thy Holy Name, and ſpeak of all thy marvellous Lovingkindneſſes, and glorifie thee, by walking before thee in Holineſs and Righteouſneſs

neſs all our Days; that at laſt we may be admitted to the Glory of thy Kingdom, through the Merits and Mediation of our Saviour, to ſing Praiſes and Hallelujahs to thee, and to the Lamb for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer upon any Feſtival that relates to our Saviour.*

I.

MOST Gracious God, I acknowledge with all Joy and Thankfulneſs, thy great Goodneſs manifeſted to the Children of Men, in the wonderful Work of our Redemption. I adore thy infinite Love and Compaſſion, which took Pity upon us, when we had loſt and ruined our ſelves, and didſt ſend thy only begotten Son into the World, that we might live through him. This Day, O Lord, gives me a happy Opportunity of remembring thy ſpecial and extraordinary Kindneſs to thy unworthy Creatures, which calls for my higheſt and exalted Praiſes, to be join-

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ed with thoſe of the bleſſed Company above, who are never weary of giving Honour, Glory, Bleſſing, and Thankſgiving to thee, not only in their own Behalf, but even for thy wonderful Goodneſs to the Children of Men. Praiſe the Lord, therefore, O my Soul; and all that is within me, praiſe his holy Name.

Impreſs, O Lord, upon my Mind, ſuch a Senſe of what my deareſt Saviour has done for me, that I may celebrate all the Myſteries of my Redemption, eſpecially that which thy Church this Day ſuggeſts to my Remembrance, with profound Humility, with exalted Thoughts of thine ineffable Goodneſs, and with moſt thankful Acknowledgments of thy great Love demonſtrated to the Sons of Men: That my Heart and Life being truly affected and influenced by the Power of them in this World, I may, through thine infinite Mercy, receive the eternal Benefit of them in the World to come, where thou, O Lord, liveſt and reigneſt with the Son, and the Holy Ghoſt, one God, World without End. *Amen.*

II.

Bleſſed Jeſus, I adore with all Humility thine infinite Condeſcenſion in being made Man, in quitting the Manſions of Glory, to take upon thee the Form of a Servant, and in ſubmitting to the loweſt Condition of humane Life, in order to relieve our Miſery, and to guide us in the Way to everlaſting Life; grant that I may chearfully ſubmit to the meaneſt Offices for the Good and Benefit of my Fellow-Chriſtians, and that I may be content, and reſigned under all the moſt afflicting Circumſtances of Life, which the wiſe Providence of God ſhall think fit to lay upon me.

Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs, O my Saviour, in ſuffering thy ſelf to be circumciſed, and in being obedient to the Law for Man, whereby, in order to fulfil the Will of God, thou didſt take upon thee the Form of a Servant. Grant me the true Circumciſion of the Spirit, that my Heart and all my Members being mortified from all worldly and carnal Luſts; I may in all Things obey thy bleſſed Will, and after thy

thy Example be ready to ſacrifice my Reputation, rather than neglect my Duty.

Adored be thy Mercy, O bleſſed Jeſus, in communicating the glad Tidings of thine Appearance in the World, to the People of *Iſrael*, by the Miniſtration of Angels; and in revealing the joyful News to the *Gentiles*, by a bright and unuſual Star; that the harmonious Sound of the Goſpel has reached this Land of my Nativity. Oh! may I always value ſuch an ineſtimable Benefit, by walking as a Child of the Light, and by compaſſionating and relieving, to the utmoſt of my Power, the Miſeries of thoſe that ſit ſtill in Darkneſs.

How can I ſufficiently praiſe thee, O bleſſed Jeſus, for thy glorious Reſurrection, whereby thou haſt made known the Power of thy Divinity, and proved thy Self to be the true Meſſias. Grant that thy Victory over the Grave, may ſtrengthen me againſt the Fear of Death, that I may look upon it as a Deliverance from Sin and Sorrow, and as a Paſſage to a happy Eternity; and that the infinite Value of thy Sufferings may ſupport me un-

under the Senſe of thoſe many Follies which I heartily repent of.

I rejoice, O bleſſed Jeſus, in thy triumphant Aſcenſion, when thou didſt open the Kingdom of Heaven to all Believers, and didſt ſit down at the right Hand of thy Father, adored by Angels, and interceeding for Sinners. Oh! wean my Mind from the Vanities of this World, and place my Affections entirely on Things above; that I may ſpend the remaining Part of my Life to ſecure an eternal Inheritance. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer on any Saints-Day.*

O Lord God, precious in thy Sight is the Death of thy Saints and Martyrs, becauſe they have had the great Happineſs to give thee the utmoſt Teſtimony of their unfeigned Love and Affection. Precious to themſelves, O Lord, is the Death of thy Saints; becauſe as they have been Partakers of Chriſt's Sufferings, ſo when his Glory ſhall appear, they ſhall be made

made glad with exceeding Joy. Let their Death be always precious, O Lord, in thy Sight, becauſe their Example has convinced me of the Poſſibility of ſerving thee under the greateſt Difficulties, and animates my Endeavours with the Proſpect of their happy Succeſs.

I bleſs and praiſe thy holy Name, for all thy Apoſtles, Saints and Martyrs, departed this Life in thy Faith and Fear. I congratulate their Victories over the World, who overcame themſelves, and led in Triumph their own Paſſions. I commemorate with all Thankfulneſs their heroic Piety, who ſerved the Lord in Hunger and Thirſt, in Priſon and Chains, on Racks and in Torture, and who undauntedly encounter'd Death armed with the greateſt Terror. Let that mighty Grace, O Lord, which enabled them to conquer all Oppoſition, ſupport and animate thy Servant, who is ſurrounded with the ſame Temptations, and expoſed to the ſame unruly Paſſions. Let their Examples teach me to be humble and meek, and to ſubmit all my Deſires to the Will of God; to govern my Senſes by Reaſon, and my Reaſon by the Dictates of Revelation;

velation; to hold faſt thy true Religion and Worſhip, and never to live unworthy thereof; to take up the Croſs, and to reſiſt unto Blood, ſtriving againſt Sin. Let their mortified Lives raiſe me above the Pleaſures of Senſe, and let the Pattern of their Piety and Devotion, of their Purity and Charity, of their patient Suffering, and Perſeverance unto the End, be always ſo lively imprinted upon my Mind, that I may tranſcribe their Example in my Life and Converſation, and thereby inherit thoſe Promiſes they are now made Partakers of, through the Merits of Jeſus Chriſt, my only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer at our firſt entrance into the Church.*

LORD, I am now in thy Houſe; aſſiſt, I pray thee, and accept of my Services. Enable me, and all who ſhall this Day meet in thy Name, to worſhip thee in Spirit and in Truth. Let thy Holy Spirit

rit help our Infirmities, and diſpoſe our Hearts to Seriouſneſs, Attention, and Devotion; and grant that we may improve this Opportunity to the Honour of thy Holy Name, and the Benefit of our Souls, through Jeſus Chriſt our Saviour. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer at Church, after the Service is ended.*

BLeſſed be thy Name, O Lord, for this Opportunity of attending thee in thy Houſe and Service.

Grant that I and all that profeſs thy Name, may be Doers of thy Word, and not Hearers only: Pardon our Wandrings and Imperfections, and accept both us and our Services, through our only Mediator Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*



## *A Prayer for Chaſtity.*

GREAT and glorious Lord God! Thou art a Being of infinite Holineſs, and unſpotted Purity, and haſt declared thy Hatred and Abhorrence of all Impurity and Uncleanneſs. I preſent my ſelf before thee at this Time, beſeeching thee to give me a Heart full of Sorrow and Concern, for that the Temper and Diſpoſition of my Mind is ſo oppoſite and contrary to thee, and that I am ſo far from that Purity and Holineſs which thou requireſt, and which is neceſſary to make me meet to reliſh and partake of the Joys and Delights of thy Kingdom.

*This is to be uſed by ſuch whoſe Caſe requires it.*

["I come unto thee to beg
" Relief and Aſſiſtance from
" thee, and to beſeech thee,
" for the Sake of thy dear
" Son, to pardon and forgive all the im-
" pure and wicked Thoughts, Deſires
" and Purpoſes, which I have ever enter-
" tained in my Mind, and all the im-
" modeſt and unchaſte Behaviour and
" Actions

" Actions of my Life. And, O merciful
" God, I likewiſe implore Pardon and
" Forgiveneſs for all who have tempted
" me, or have been tempted by me, or
" have been Partakers with me in any
" kind of Impurity. Reſcue them from
" the Power and Dominion of their Luſts,
" and grant that they may be converted
" unto thee.]

O be thou pleaſed to purge and cleanſe my Soul from all Filthineſs of Fleſh and Spirit, and grant that my Body may be a holy Temple, fit for thy Holy Spirit to dwell in.

To this end, do thou enable me to mortifie and ſubdue all fleſhly Luſts, which war againſt the Soul, which wound the Conſcience, grieve the Holy Spirit, and render the Mind unfit for the Performance of Holy Duties.

Create in me, O God, a clean Heart, and renew a right Spirit within me. Put thy Fear into my Heart, and cauſe in my Soul a ſtedfaſt Reſolution againſt, and Deteſtation of all Uncleanneſs. Let me ever remember, that thou art every where preſent, and that all Things, how ſecret ſoever they may be kept from Men, are naked

naked and open to the Eyes of him with whom we have to do. Let me ever remember that thy holy Word declares, that Whoremongers and Adulterers ſhall be judged and condemned by thee, and that no unclean Perſon ſhall enter into thy Kingdom, and that for the ſake of theſe Things, the Wrath of God cometh upon the Children of Diſobedience.

And that I may obtain the Grace of Chaſtity, make me, O God, careful and diligent in the Uſe of thoſe Means that are neceſſary to this End. I know, O Lord, that Purity is thy Gift; but I know likewiſe, that thou wilt not beſtow it on ſuch as be ſlothful and negligent, and will not uſe the Means which thou haſt appointed for the Attainment of it. Let me be diligent and induſtrious in the Place and Station, wherein thy Providence has ſet me, conſidering that Idleneſs is the Occaſion of Impurity. Teach me to keep a ſtrict Guard over my Senſes, to refrain from all evil and corrupt Communication; and grant that my Speech may be ſuch, as may miniſter to the Edification of thoſe with whom I converſe. Teach me to be ſober in my Attire, moderate in my Diet,

tem-

temperate in the Uſe of all Things, prudent in the Choice of my Company, diſpoſed to practiſe the neceſſary Duties of Mortification and Self-denial, and watchful over my own Heart, ſtifling and ſuppreſſing the very firſt Motions to Impurity.

Let me abſtain from ſeeing all ſuch Sights, and refrain from reading all ſuch Books, as are apt to excite in me any Looſeneſs or Levity of Spirit; and let me be conſtant and diligent in reading and meditating on the Holy Scriptures, which are apt to cleanſe the Heart, and to excite pious Affections in my Soul.

Make me mindful of the Dignity and Holineſs of my Profeſſion, and to remember, that if any one defile the Temple of God, him will God deſtroy.

Give me a juſt Eſteem and Value for the honourable Eſtate of Marriage, which thou haſt ordained as a Remedy againſt Fornication; and grant that (when I enter into it) I may never abuſe it, by allowing my ſelf ſuch Liberties as are inconſiſtent with the Purity of the Chriſtian Religion.

Grant that my Soul and Body may be preſerved pure and undefiled; that glorifying

fying thee in my Body and in my Spirit now, I may hereafter be glorified by thee. Give me a firm Faith in thy Power for the ſubduing all Impurity, and whatever is contrary to thy bleſſed Will in my Soul. Let no Diſcouragements keep me from preſenting frequent and fervent Petitions to thee for this excellent and neceſſary Gift, in the Name of our great Mediator Jeſus Chriſt; to whom, with thee, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all Honour and Glory, Thankſgiving and Praiſe, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for Submiſſion to the Will of God, and for Contentment.*

I.

O Almighty and All-wiſe God, the Creator, Diſpoſer, and Governour of all Things; from thee I have my Being, and of thy Fulneſs I have all that I poſſeſs and enjoy. O God, grant that I may always adore and reverence thee as the ſupreme Object of my Love, my Fear, my Hope, and

and my Truſt; and that I may render thee all thoſe religious and devout Affections, which are due to thee my Maker and Sovereign Lord.

II.

Whatever thou pleaſeſt, that doſt thou in Heaven and in Earth; from thee cometh every good and perfect Gift, neither is there any Evil that cometh, that thou haſt not appointed; thou makeſt poor, and makeſt rich; thou bringeſt low, and lifteſt up; grant therefore, I may reverence and acknowledge thy Providence in every Thing that befals me, and from thence adore thy Goodneſs, and acknowledge thy Juſtice, and pay all humble Submiſſion to thy Sovereign Will and Pleaſure, out of a firm Perſwaſion of thy infinite Wiſdom and Goodneſs.

III.

O God, who in thy Wiſdom haſt ordained the ſeveral Orders and Degrees, the ſeveral different States and Conditi-

ons

ons of Men in this World; grant me full Contentment of Mind in that State thou haſt been pleaſed to place me, and Humility to acquieſce in thy Diſpoſal of me, and Grace carefully and faithfully to diſcharge thoſe Duties it requires of me. Grant me Patience under all Loſſes and Diſappointments, and remove all Repining and Envy far from me.

## IV.

O God, I am thy Creature; my entire Dependance is on thee; grant that therefore my Faith, my Hope, and my Truſt, may always be in thee, and that my Hope and my Truſt may not be in vain; grant I may always fear and obey thee, for then thou haſt promiſed thou wilt never leave me nor forſake me. I will therefore take no anxious Thought for my Life, what I ſhall eat, or what I ſhall drink, or wherewithal I ſhall be cloathed, (as a Gentile that knows thee not) ſeeing thou knoweſt I have need of all theſe Things, and that if I ſeek thy Righteouſneſs, all theſe Things ſhall be added unto me, out of thy great Bounty and Fulneſs.

neſs. Nor will I be diſmayed at any Calamity thou in thy wiſe Providence ſhalt order for me, ſeeing all Things ſhall work together for Good to them that love and fear thee.

V.

Take from me all Sorrow, that the Love of worldly Things may at any Time raiſe in me, from my unſucceſsful Hopes and Deſigns in this World, or from any Evils or Calamities of this Life. Let me not hereafter wiſh for Proſperity, for Health, or Life; but with the Proſpect of ſpending them in thee, with thee, and for thy Glory. I pray not that thou would'ſt give me either Proſperity or Adverſity, Health or Sickneſs, Life or Death; but that thou would'ſt diſpoſe my Proſperity and my Adverſity, my Health, my Sickneſs, my Life, and my Death, for thy Glory, and for my own eternal Welfare. Thou alone knoweſt what is moſt expedient for me; thou art my Sovereign Maſter and Lord; guide and govern me at thy Pleaſure, give me, or take from me, as ſeemeth beſt to thy

thy Providence, and in all Things conform my Will to thine. And grant, that with an humble Submiſſion and holy Confidence, I may equally reverence and adore the moſt different Events which thou ſhalt accompliſh in me.

## VI.

O God, grant I may with a conſtant Evenneſs of Spirit embrace all thy Diſpoſals, foraſmuch as I know not what to ask, and cannot deſire abſolutely one Event rather than another, without Preſumption, and without making my ſelf the Judge of all that Train of Future Things, which thy Wiſdom has ſo juſtly concealed from my View. I know, O Lord, my whole Knowledge may be reduced to this one Point; That it is Good to obey thee, and Evil to offend thee. After this, I know not what is beſt or worſt amongſt all Things. I know not what is more profitable for me, Health or Sickneſs, Riches or Poverty, any Condition, any Circumſtances of this World; ſuch a Judgment ſurpaſſeth the Force and Sagacity of

Man, and lies hid amongſt the Secrets of thy good Providence; which I will reverence and adore, and humbly ſubmit to, but will never attempt to trace, or penetrate into, or diſpute and murmur againſt. Finally, O my God, I commit my Life, and the deareſt Concerns that attend it, to thy Diſpoſal, in the Name of Jeſus Chriſt my Saviour, beſeeching thee, for his Sake, by ſuch Ways and Means as thou ſeeſt fit, to bring me to Life Eternal. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for an holy and happy Death.*

O Eternal and Holy Jeſus! who by thy Death haſt overcome Death, and by thy Paſſion haſt taken out its Sting, and made it an Entrance into everlaſting Life; help me ſo to order my Converſation in the World, ſo to govern my Spirit, and to lead my Life, that I may die with comfort and ſafety. Let not my Death be in any Senſe unprovided, nor untimely.

Grant

Grant that in the Time of my Sickneſs, I may not be left without the Aſſiſtance of a ſpiritual Guide, nor be deſtitute of the Comfort of Receiving the bleſſed Sacrament.

Let me finiſh my Courſe with Patience, and Reſignation of my own Will and Deſires, with a firm Faith, and a well-grounded Hope, with a true and ſincere Repentance, and great Degrees of Love towards thee my God, and Charity to all the World: And whenever it ſhall pleaſe thee to call me out of this vain and wicked World, grant that I may die the Death of the Righteous; having firſt diſcharged all my Obligations of Juſtice, leaving none miſerable and unprovided at my Departure.

And when the appointed Time of my Change comes, grant, O Lord, that I may receive it not as a Curſe, but a Deliverance, as a Reſt from all my Labours, without Trouble, and without Sin. O remember not againſt me my manifold Follies; but let them all be done away by thy Mercy, and my bleſſed Saviour's Merits.

Support me, O good God, in my laſt Agonies, and as my Strength decays, let my Pains wear off; and when my Strength fails, let not my Faith fail; even in Death, enable me to truſt in thee.

Deliver me from all violent Diſorders of a troubled Fancy, and defend me againſt all Deluſions of my ghoſtly Enemy: O let him not be able to diſturb or terriſy me, or any way prevail againſt me. And when my Death approaches, give thy Holy Angels Charge to ſtand about me, to guard and receive my poor Soul at my Departure, and tó conduct and carry it to the bleſſed Regions of Reſt and Peace, there to wait for thy Coming, and then to partake of the Glories of thy Kingdom, O Eternal and Holy Jeſus. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer in ſtormy and tempeſtuous Weather; as great* Thunder, Lightning, *&c.*

O Great and glorious God, who makeſt the *Thunder*, and cauſeſt the *Vapours* to aſcend from the

the Ends of the Earth; thou ſendeſt forth thy Commandment upon the Earth, and thy Word runneth very ſwiftly; thou makeſt *Lightnings* for the *Rain*, and bringeſt the *Wind* out of thy *Treaſuries*. Thou giveſt *Snow* like Wool, thou ſcattereſt the *Hoar-Froſt* like Aſhes, and caſteſt forth thy *Ice* like Morſels. Fire and Hail, Snow and Vapours, and the *ſtormy Wind*, fulfil thy Word. How wonderful art thou in thy Works, and terrible in thy Doings towards the Children of Men!

O deliver us from our juſt Fears, and uneaſie Apprehenſions, and in Mercy cauſe the *threatning Deſtruction* to paſs over us. Grant that the preſent Storm may not be a *Meſſenger* of thy *Judgment*, and an *Executioner* of thy Wrath only, but a Means to cool, and refreſh, and cleanſe the Air, and make the Earth fruitful. O ſhut not thy merciful Ear to our Prayers, but ſave and deliver us for thy Mercy ſake, who now apply to thee in this Time of our Diſtreſs.

We know, O Lord, that thy Judgments are juſt, and that our Sins have deſerved much greater Puniſhments than thoſe we now fear; for we have broken thy Cove-

nrnt, diſobeyed thy Commandments, and provoked thee to be angry with us; but we are heartily ſorry for our Offences, we repent and turn to thee, do thou, O God, increaſe our Repentance; O let that full, perfect, and ſufficient Sacrifice, which thy beloved Son offered up upon the Croſs, atone, and make ſatisfaction for our Sins.

Suffer us not, O Lord, to forget thee; but awaken us out of all carnal Security, and from the Sleep and Death of Sin. Let not the Impreſſions of thy Power, which the *Noiſe* and *Shaking* of the impending *Storm* hath made upon us, ſoon wear off. And ſince the *dreadful Commotions* it occaſions are now *ſo terrible*, help us to conſider how much *more Aſtoniſhing* it will be to ſee the *Heavens on Fire*, and the *Elements* melt with fervent Heat, and the *Earth*, and the Works that are therein, be burnt up. Do thou ſo effectually touch our Hearts, and incline our Wills, by the powerful Operations of thy Spirit, that no Excuſes may prevail with us to defer our Preparations againſt that Time, nor delay to provide a Place of Retreat and Security.

Let

Let ſuch Thoughts ſink deep into our Minds, that we may valiantly Fight under the Captain of our Salvation Chriſt Jeſus, and bravely reſiſt, and conquer all the *Temptations* and *Allurements* of the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil.

Let them deter us from every evil Work, and make us effectually to conſider, what manner of Perſons we ought to be in all holy Converſation and Godlineſs. Grant this, O God, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Rain.

O God, who didſt promiſe to give thy People Rain in due Seaſon, if they ſhould walk in thy Statutes, and keep thy Commandments, and do them, that the Land might yield her increaſe, and the Trees of the Field their Fruit; And by thy Son Jeſus Chriſt haſt promiſed, as an Encouragement to all them, who in the firſt Place ſeek thy Kingdom, and the Righteouſneſs requiſite to bring us to the En-

joyment thereof, all Things neceſſary to their bodily Suſtenance; I beſeech thee, in this Time of our Diſtreſs, to ſend us ſuch moderate Rain and Showers, that we may receive the Fruits of the Earth in due Seaſon. I confeſs, O Lord, our unworthineſs of this Mercy, and that thou mighteſt juſtly make the Heavens over us as Braſs, and the Rain of our Land Duſt: But I humbly pray thee to Pardon our Sins, and in the midſt of Judgment to remember Mercy; and to cauſe the Rain to come down in due Seaſon, that the Graſs may grow for the Cattle, and Herbs and Fruit for the Service of Men; and that the Poor may eat and be ſatisfied, and praiſe the Lord for his Bounty and Loving-kindneſs. And whatever Bleſſings thou ſhalt beſtow upon us, give us Grace to uſe them to thy Honour, and our own Comfort. Keep us from murmuring and repining at thy Dealings with us; and let all thy Diſpenſations be received with Reſignation and Thankfulneſs, and bring us in the End to thy Heavenly Kingdom, through Jeſus Chriſt our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for* Fair Weather.

I Acknowledge, O Lord, the Juſtice of thy Providence, in the immoderate Rain thou haſt been pleaſed to ſend upon the Earth. We have been unmindful of thee, who haſt ſo bountifully provided for us. We have abuſed thy Bleſſings; ſo that thou may'ſt juſtly turn our Plenty into Scarceneſs. But I humbly beſeech thee, to put a ſtop to thoſe Rains, which have fallen in ſuch Abundance, and to ſend us ſuch Weather, that we may receive the Fruits of the Earth in due Seaſon. Preſerve our Cattle from being deſtroy'd by exceſſive Floods. Grant that the Ground may yield its increaſe, to the Joy and Comfort of thy humble Servants. Keep us from abuſing thy Bleſſings by Riot and Intemperance, and grant that we may uſe them with Sobriety and Thankfulneſs, being bountiful and charitable to thoſe that are in Want. Awaken in us, O God, a diligent Concern, not only for the Meat which periſheth, but for thy

thy Grace, which may nouriſh our Souls to Eternal Life, through Jeſus Chriſt our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## *A Prayer for a* Priſoner *for* Debt.

ALmighty God, juſt and holy in all the Diſpenſations of thy Providence to the Children of Men; The Difficulties and Sorrows I labour under in this cloſe Confinement, are perfectly known to thee, who doſt ſuccour the Miſerable, and help the Friendleſs. O Lord, I moſt ſorrowfully confeſs, that I have deſerved to ſuffer much greater Puniſhments, and to feel the Severities of thy Wrath and Diſpleaſure. For I have abuſed my Liberty, and neglected my Duty. I have gone contrary to thy Holy Will, and refuſed to obey thy wiſe and righteous Laws. I do therefore moſt humbly deſire to ſubmit to thy all-wiſe Diſpoſal, and patiently to wait for that Time, which thou ſhalt think beſt, for my Enlargement. Let me receive this melancholy Reſtraint, as a juſt Puniſhment for my Sins, and

and grant that others may be warned by my Example.

Let me in theſe diſconſolate Circumſtances, have the Comfort and Direction of thy Holy Spirit. Aſſiſt me, O God, in calling my Ways to remembrance; in examining into the State of my Soul; in repenting and humbling my ſelf before thee, and in reconciling my ſelf to thee my offended God. Let me highly Prize the Holy Scriptures, and follow the Divine Inſtructions to be learnt from thence. Grant that the Promiſes and Threatnings therein contain'd, may powerfully work in my Soul a firm and vigorous Reſolution of obeying thee.

Wean my Mind from all carnal and vain Delights; and be thou pleaſed to ſuit my Deſires to the Straitneſs and Difficulty of my Circumſtances, and give me a perfect Reſignation to thy Holy Will.

Thou, O God, *loveſt Righteouſneſs, and hateſt Iniquity*; and thy Holy Word makes it a part of the Character of the Wicked, to *borrow, and not pay again*; let it be therefore my Study and Care to content and ſatisfie my Creditors to the utmoſt of my Power. O keep me from all

Thoughts

Thoughts of uſing a Priſon to cancel my Debts, and thereby defraud my Creditors of their juſt due; for I know that by ſo doing, I ſhall entail a Curſe on my ſelf and Family; for, how can I hope for a Bleſſing from thee, when I make uſe of ſinful Methods to provide for my ſelf and them?

Touch the Hearts of my Creditors with a Senſe of my Miſery and Trouble, and diſpoſe them to accept of ſuch Satisfaction as I am able to make, that I may be diſcharged out of this miſerable Confinement, if it be thy good Pleaſure.

And after my Diſcharge, let thy good Providence direct me to ſuch honeſt Ways of getting, and ſo bleſs me in my lawful Endeavours and Undertakings, that I may be in a Condition to pay them what ſhall be behind, and fully ſatisfie their juſt Demands, knowing that notwithſtanding my Diſcharge, and though I am out of the Reach of humane Laws in this reſpect, yet my *Duty* and *Obligation* in *Equity* is ſtill the ſame. But if thou ſhalt think fit to deny me this Requeſt, do thou, O God, make up their Loſs in ſuch Way and Manner as thou pleaſeſt. Hear me, O

Lord,

Lord, for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

'Some of the Conſiderations propoſed 'to Priſoners for Crimes, may be of Uſe to '*Priſoners for Debt*, and indeed to all 'Chriſtians, in order to the making their 'Peace with God. *Priſoners for Debt* 'may likewiſe be aſſiſted in the *Examina-* '*tion* of their Conſciences by the Office for '*Self-Examination* in the *Second Part* of 'this Book.

'I judge it needleſs to obſerve, that 'though the foregoing Prayer be peculiar- 'ly adapted to the Caſe of *Priſoners for* '*Debt*, yet it is not intended that they 'ſhould uſe that only; no, the reſt of the 'Prayers in this Book, or ſuch other as 'they find more *agreeable* to the *Temper* 'of their Minds, or expreſſive of their 'Wants, are recommended to their uſe, for 'which they will not want Leiſure and 'Opportunity.

## Some *Conſiderations* proper for *Priſoners for Crimes*, in order to their making their *Peace* with *GOD*, *as well before*, *as after their* Condemnation.

'  Ften lift up your *Heart* to God, and beg of Him, for Chriſt's ſake, that he will be pleaſed *in Mercy* to enlighten your 'Mind, and ſoften your Heart, and give you 'a deep Senſe of your *miſerable Condition*, till 'you find your ſelf more concern'd for 'the Salvation of your precious and immor-'tal Soul, than for your temporal Life.

'Conſider that our firſt Parents having 'fallen from God, and corrupted them-'ſelves, all who deſcend from them muſt 'be corrupt, it being impoſſible to bring 'a *clean Thing* out of an unclean.

'Conſider that our *great Buſineſs* and 'concern in this World, which we are to 'look upon as a *State* of *Tryal*, is to re-'cover out of this *corrupt State*, and to at-'tain that *Reſemblance* to God after 'which Man was created, and without

'which

'which it is *impoſſible* to *obtain Happineſs* 'in the Kingdom of Heaven. What an 'important Concern then have you to 'mind, who have been ſo far from doing 'any thing in it, that you have made it 'more Difficult by doing the quite con-'trary?

'Conſider that it is abſolutely neceſſary 'to bring our Wills to a full and entire 'Reſignation and Conformity to the Will 'and Laws of our Creator.

'Read over ſeriouſly the *Office* of *Pub-'lick Baptiſm*, which will inſtruct you on 'what *Terms* and *Conditions* you were ad-'mitted into Chriſt's Church, and to the 'Hopes of Mercy and Eternal Life, and 'conſider how you have perform'd thoſe 'Conditions. Read likewiſe the Exhorta-'tion in the Office of *Commination*, or *de-'nouncing* of God's Anger and Judgments 'againſt Sinners, in the Book of *Common-'Prayer*.

'Shun *Idleneſs*, and all *unprofitable Vi-'ſits*. Look diligently into the State of 'your Soul. Humble your ſelf before 'God. Avoid profane and looſe *Company*, 'and be ſure never to exceed the *ſober*

'and

'and *temperate Uſe* of *Wine* and *ſtrong* 'Liquors.

'Conſider the Kindneſs and Love of 'God in giving his Son, our Saviour Je-'ſus Chriſt, to die for our Sins, and in 'offering *Pardon* and *Salvation* to all *true* 'penitent *Sinners*; *that is*, to all who 'forſake their Sins, and turn to God, 'and do Works meet for Repentance; and 'how deſervedly they will be condemned 'who refuſe this gracious offer.

'Conſider that one *neceſſary Part* of 'true *Repentance* conſiſts in *undoing*, as 'much as in you lies, the *Evil* and *Miſ-'chief* you have done. Therefore admo-'niſh all thoſe, as far as you can, with whom 'you have been concern'd, to forſake their 'evil Courſes. Make a full and ample 'Diſcovery of all wicked *Confederacies* for 'Robbery or other Miſchief, that you know 'of, in order to the breaking of them, and 'bringing obſtinate and irreclaimable Sin-'ners to Puniſhment, and preventing the 'Spoiling and Robbery of the Innocent. 'Do not call this *diſhonourable*; neither 'ought you to account it a betraying 'your Companions, or a Breach of Truſt, 'or of your Faith. For all ſuch Confede-

'racies

'racies being *evil* in their own *Nature*, 'their *Secrets* cannot *lawfully* be kept. To '*conceal* them therefore is both *diſhoneſt* 'and *diſhonourable*; and to diſcover them, 'an Act of *Juſtice* to humane Society, 'and of *Charity* to the Innocent, who by 'ſuch *Diſcovery* may be preſerved from be-'ing injured by the Wicked engaged in theſe '*Confederacies*, which may hereby be bro-'ken. Nay, it may be the *greateſt Charity* 'that can be ſhewn to the *Guilty* themſelves, 'who may be led to *Repentance*, and pre-'vailed with to follow an honeſt Courſe of 'Life.

'Another *neceſſary Part* of *true Re-'pentance*, is *Reſtitution*, and Satisfaction, 'as far as you are able, to the Perſons 'you have robbed, praying heartily to God 'to make up what is wanting, by his 'Grace and Bleſſing to them.

'More *particular Directions* to Perſons 'under theſe unhappy Circumſtances they 'may receive from thoſe who are ſo chari-'table as to viſit them, and from good 'Books which may be put into their Hands, 'particularly Mr. *Kettlewell*'s Office for 'Priſoners. Alſo the Directions for Exami-'nation, the Prayers, &c. in the *Second*

'*Part*

'*Part* of this Book, may be of Uſe to 'them in Private. Here follows,

## *A Prayer that may be uſed with condemned Priſoners by thoſe who viſit them.*

O Moſt holy and righteous God, we adore the Wiſdom and Juſtice of thy Providence, in bringing theſe Perſons now under Sentence of Death, to ſuffer ſuch Puniſhments as their Sins have deſerved. Bleſſed be thy Name that thou didſt not cut them off in the midſt of their Sins, but haſt afforded them Time to conſider their Condition, and to repent and humble themſelves before thee.

If thou, Lord, ſhould mark our Tranſgreſſions, and deal with us, as in Juſtice thou mighteſt, who could ſtand before thee? But there is Mercy with thee that thou mayſt be feared.

Their Sins have found them out, and brought them to Shame and Miſery. They are more than they can number, and greater than

than they can expreſs. Diſpoſe their Hearts to a full and free Confeſſion of their Tranſgreſſions, and to make ſuch Satisfaction to their Country, and the Perſons they have injured, as they are able.

All our Hope is in thy Mercy, and in the gracious Promiſes thou haſt made to Mankind in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, who was pleaſed to ſuffer Death upon the Croſs, to make Satisfaction for all true penitent and returning Sinners. Thou haſt aſſured us, that the *unrighteous ſhall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven*, and that *except we repent, we ſhall all periſh*; but thou haſt promiſed too, that if the Wicked forſake his Way, if he grieve and mourn for his Sins, if he hate and forſake them, thou wilt have Mercy upon him. Oh! fill their Souls with horror and confuſion for their Tranſgreſſions. Open their Eyes, that they may ſee their Guilt, and be ſenſible of their Danger. And grant, that being turned from their Sins, their Souls may be waſhed and cleanſed in that Fountain, which thou haſt opened for Sin and Uncleanneſs.

O touch their Hearts with a lively Senſe of thy Love, and of thy Goodneſs; and diſpoſe their Minds, by the powerful Aſſiſtances of thy Grace, to cloſe with the Offer of Salvation upon thoſe juſt and reaſonable Conditions it is made to them upon.

Give them a lively and effectual Faith in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt. And though the Remembrance of their Sins may fill their Souls with dread and horror; yet do thou, O Lord, convince them, that their Sins are not greater than thy Mercy can pardon, nor greater than the Blood of thy Son can make Satisfaction for, if they repent, and turn to thee.

Wo is me, vile and wretched Sinner that I am, may each of them ſay, in that I have ſo fooliſhly and wickedly departed from thee, having broken thy Covenant, the Covenant of my Baptiſm; having renounced the Happineſs and Pleaſure of ſerving thee, to ſerve my greateſt Enemy, who ſeeks my Deſtruction. But I repent, O my God, do thou increaſe my Repentance.

O!

O! Poſſeſs their Souls with ſuch a deep Senſe of their Guilt, that they may mourn for their Sins! O give them an Intereſt in the Merits and Sufferings of Jeſus, and ſuch broken and contrite Hearts as thou wilt not deſpiſe.

Grant that the miſerable Circumſtances, into which they have plunged themſelves by their Sins, may be an effectual Warning to deter others from following wicked Courſes; and that the Hardſhips they endure may, through the riches of thy Grace, be an Occaſion of Converting their Souls, and a Means of Compleating their Repentance, and ſetting forward their Salvation. To this End, we pray thee, O merciful and gracious God, That their Sorrow may be that *Godly Sorrow which worketh Repentance to Salvation not to be repented of*; that they may Sorrow not only for the Shame and Puniſhment they have brought upon themſelves in this World; but for their having offended thee, and reſiſted and grieved thy Holy Spirit; and for that they have forſaken thee, and gone contrary to thy Holy Laws, which are neceſſary to their Happineſs.

O God, prepare them for, and ſupport them under the deſerved Puniſhment they are ſhortly to ſuffer. May they have all their Puniſhment in this Life; and deliver them from Shame and everlaſting Contempt. Be thou graciouſly pleaſed to glorifie thy Mercy in their Salvation, and not thy Juſtice in their everlaſting Deſtruction, and Condemnation. O give them Hope in their Death, and a Portion in thy Heavenly Kingdom.

O Lord, hear, O Lord, help, O Lord, have mercy, for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, who came into the World to ſave Sinners; in the fulleſt Senſe of whoſe Words we pray to be heard for our ſelves, and for all Mankind.

*Our Father*, &c.

'Several Prayers in the Liturgy of the 'Church may be properly uſed with con- 'demned Priſoners; ſometimes with ve- 'ry little, but oftner without any Alte- 'ration. For Inſtance, in the Collect for '*Chriſtmas-Day*, theſe Words [*as at this time*] may be omitted.

'After

'After ſome ſuitable Diſcourſe with 'the Priſoners, ſometimes the foregoing 'Prayer, and ſometimes ſome ſuch Col-'lection as is here recommended, may be 'uſed.

'The *Confeſſion* in the daily Service, or 'that in the Communion-Office.

'Then may follow the *Collect* for the '24th *Sunday* after *Trinity*, and the two 'firſt *Collects* in the *Commination-Office.*

'Then the *Prayers* immediately after 'the *Creed*, among which is the *Lord's* '*Prayer.*

'Then the *Collect* for the *Week*, the '2d and 3d *Collects* in the *Morning* or '*Evening Service*, the Prayer for all Con-'ditions of Men, and the general Thankſ-'giving.

'Or before the two laſt may be uſed, 'the *Collects* for the *1ſt* and *4th Sundays* 'in *Advent*, the *Collects* for *Aſh-Wedneſ-'day*, for the *Circumciſion* of Chriſt, for '*Chriſtmas-Day*, for the *6th*, *7th*, and '*14th Sundays* after *Trinity*, &c.

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